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### THE SEASON OF CONVENTIONS.

There is no mode better calculated to convey instruction than the living voice. This is tacitly acknowledged. We will not now attempt to explain the philosophy, but accept the proposition as a conceded fact. People act from this standpoint. If any great enterprise is to be accomplished, directly a convention is called and those who are interested—either as a matter of speculation, or from philanthropic or patriotic motives—come, prepared to show the pro and the con, and give a reason for the faith that is in them. They go directly to the jury and plead their case in the strongest and most forcible language they can command; they bring the jury into sympathy with themselves, and engraft upon them their own opinions; or else, if the electric spark fails to take, their words return upon themselves like the sounds of the echo, and the jury, being unconvinced, will give their verdict against them.

If the proposition assumed is correct—and it must be, for it is vox populi—we can see no good reason why the special interests of the farmer should not be discussed in convention.

Our horticulturists are wide-awake, and talk up every branch of fruit growing, so much so, that we have subdivisions of the subjects; as, for instance, pomological societies having for their special hobby, the apple; grape and wine growers associations; local horticultural societies, &c.—each defending their own special interests. We believe that in the West or North-west, there never have been held market gardeners' conventions; but there ought to be.

Now, there certainly can be no objections to having the farmers' specialties investigated; and on one or two points this has been done to some extent. We have had wool-growers' and dairymen's conventions; but what greater interest have the farmers than grain growing; or, if that is too wide a field, wheat growing? From many quarters, our motion made some time ago for a wheat growers' convention, is seconded, and the wish expressed that it be called sometime in February. Some point in Madison Co., Illinois, would be accessible to most (winter) wheat growers; for, be it known, that most of the interest manifested seems to

find expression in the Prairie State—not that Missouri does not produce the best of wheat, nor because our own citizens are less interested—but they certainly do not, at present, see the necessity of holding a wheat growers' convention just yet, and that is the prime reason why we would urge them to attend one in a sister State.

The question naturally comes up: "What shall we discuss after we get together?" Now, if you were to meet a farmer friend socially—that is a wheat grower, and say to him—"With me the White May has done best, and I always sow wheat after wheat on my land, because my land can stand it; and then I think this matter of using the drill has been hugely overestimated; or, I like broadcast sowing—it is so easy, all you have got to do is to shoulder your sack and strew the seed. Or, tell him barn-yard manure is a damage to wheat—it will do well enough for corn, but for wheat I do not believe in it. Or, suggest to him that the use of a roller is a damage; it packs the land, and makes it as hard as a brick, &c.—and we will bet a big apple that you would get up an excited discussion immediately. These are only a few of the many points which would be certain to spring up. But, in order to reap the full benefit of any convention or public discussion, the members should come prepared with facts. They should be able to say:—In such a year I sowed so much of such variety of seed per acre, and on land prepared thus and so; and the natural condition of the land was thus; and the previous crop was corn, or barley, or wheat, as the case might be. Further, be able to give the date of sowing; the date when the harvest commenced, and under what conditions of season, &c., and the general result—and, then, if we could, get a comparative statement of the harvest generally, and also statements to show the deterioration, if any, between the present and former years, &c. Why, gentlemen, there are very many subjects connected with wheat growing that need ventilating; and, although we are laboring with might and main, to get the facts before the people, yet the living voice, as we stated in the outset, has great power; and, when engaged in the cause of truth, by an earnest speaker, almost irresistible force.

But, as we suggested to a gentleman this morning—the call should go forth from Secretary Reynolds. Let all such as believe that essential benefits would arise from the holding of a Wheat Growers' convention, either singly, or collectively, address a line to the worthy Secretary, and at the same time suggest a place for the holding of such convention; and we doubt not a call will be issued in proper form. A good way would be, that some of the local agricultural societies, through their respective Presidents, take this matter in hand, and if it is worth doing at all, do it *immediately*, and with all the might. We have not a shadow of a doubt but great good would result.

#### A CELLAR ICE-HOUSE.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: Seeing an article in one of your last issues about Cheap Ice-Houses, reminds me that we have an ice-house, or rather I should say an ice room. It is built in one corner of the cellar; consists of two walls of brick, which partition off a space twelve feet square. The bottom is dug out a foot and a half deeper than the cellar floor, making about eight feet in height, from bottom to ceiling.—The joists overhead are ceiled; the ceiling coated with gas tar, and then sanded upon the fresh tar. A door-frame is built in the wall, with two doors hung in it. The bottom is cemented. The ice is put in through a cellar window; a drain carries off water from the melting ice. Small poles are laid across the bottom a foot apart, and straw laid upon them, then the ice is packed so as to leave about a foot space between the walls and ice, which space is packed with chaff. About the same space is left between top of ice and ceiling, which is also filled with chaff. As the ice settles away in the spring (before we commence using it) we put in more chaff. We ventilate from the window, and have plenty of ice till the middle of September. We first partitioned off for ice room with boards, with double walls, (ten years ago); packed with saw-dust, which we had to haul three miles. We afterwards found our walls were decaying, and took down and replaced with single wall of brick—tried straw one year, but the ice did not keep well—have used chaff for a number of years and are pleased with it—as it is home grown it has to be hauled but a short distance. It takes between eight and ten loads of ice to fill the room, and is easy of access from the cellar where the cream is kept and churning is done in summer. We like the plan and would advise any one having a large cellar and wanting an ice-house, to go and do likewise. Rustic.

New Madrid county contains 2326 white males, of all ages, 1413 white females, colored males 637, and colored females 597, making a total population of 5520. There is one white deaf and dumb, and two colored. The number of horses is 1064; mules, 1692; cattle, 4756; hogs, 10,703, and sheep 1519. Out of 955 eligible voters, only 449 are allowed to vote.

Pleasant Hill, Cass county, must be a pleasant place, since even the ferocious animals combine with those less so, to make up a happy family. A citizen of the town has a pet wolf several months old. Another has a pet bear, and both may be seen romping about without exciting surprise. Warrensburg, not to be outdone by her neighbors, boasts of having a couple of pet wild-cats.

#### SORGHUM.

We copy from the *Sorgo Journal* for December the following concerning the present yield of syrup:

Sorghum experienced a revival this season, from the relapse into which it fell in 1867, and although the product will not quite reach that of 1866, the total yield will, probably, be equal to that of any former year, except 1866. The season has been favorable for the growth of stalks, but very unfavorable for the development of saccharine matter. From most points we hear that the juice, though abundant, marks low, frequently as low as 5° B. The rains, which were almost incessant through the latter part of August and September, kept the cane from maturing, and the freezing frosts which occurred in October, though not really untimely, found much cane still standing.

Unfortunately, some who raise cane do not read the *Sorgo Journal*, and having no knowledge of the admonitions which have been so often given in our columns, have allowed their cane to stand in the field, exposed to the warm sun for days, and perhaps weeks, after being visited by a freezing frost. As a consequence, they have sour cane, can make no good syrup, and are now experiencing emotions of sublime and indignant disgust. Those who took note of the temperature, and wisely commenced slashing down their cane the day before, and completed the work of cutting a day or two after the freeze, are now working good, sound, sweet cane, precisely as if no frost had occurred.

Operators are generally taking more pains in making their syrup, and an increased attention to quality is manifested, but this has not been entirely sufficient to overcome the disadvantages resulting from the unfavorable season.

The quantity of good syrup produced this season will not be greater than the demand. Very few sections of the country will have more than will be required for home consumption, and we advise all who have syrup to sell to find a market for it at home, if possible.

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

#### FROM BENTON COUNTY, MO.

This county presents three kinds of valuable land—adapted to tillage. The north part of the county consists mainly of larger rich prairies, much of which remains unbroken. These prairies are admirably adapted to cultivation and always prove remunerative when tilled. There is only one drawback, viz: lack of timber. Farther South—the prairies meet the timbered lands which skirt up in points and present one of the finest counties in this or any other State.

From Warsaw—north ten or twelve miles—the prairies are bounded by forests. This is a well settled country, the farms are well improved and rapidly improving; many immigrants are coming to this section. Improved farms with good new dwellings can be purchased for \$20 or \$25 per acre. Generally the timber and prairie join—or the timber is not far off. Farms that three years ago could have been purchased for \$12 to \$15 per acre, are now held at large advance. I hear of some sales at \$25 per acre. One feature I would mention, and that is *water*, which is unlike that of the richer counties—here it is pure and clear. This country is well watered, and there is abundance of range for stock. It is probable that no part of Missouri can boast of better timber than Benton county. At Warsaw, the County seat, on the Osage river, there are three mills, and one now in process of construction, by an Englishman, with large capital, who will make lumber for the *European*

market. We have walnut, oak—three or four kinds of oak, hickory—ash, elm, sugar maple, &c., in the greatest abundance.

There is a noticeable improvement in school houses, which are being erected all over the county. The bottom lands—along the streams and river—are as rich as the richest.

No country in the world can be healthier than this. On the whole, Benton county presents many inducements to the immigrant, on account of soil, water and timber, and should the projected Osage Valley Railroad be constructed—from Tipton south—(it is now completed from Boonville to Tipton,) these farms now offered for \$20 and \$25 per acre, will jump up to \$40 directly.

There is a large breadth of land sown in winter wheat in this county. *Prospect good.* C.

## The Apiary.

TO CATCH THE QUEEN.—J. L. Peabody in the *Prairie Farmer*, gives the following directions to catch the queen:

Have a box about a foot square, (or one that will just fit the top of your hives,) with a glass in one side. Take off the cap and honey board, place the box on the top of the hive, disturbing the bees as little as possible; have some smoke at hand, raise the hives gently, and put under the smoke as soon as you put on the box. Then watch through the glass for the queen. She will be among the first to come up. You will have no difficulty in seeing and catching her among so few bees.

As soon as you see the queen come up, take off the box, remove the smoke, and cover up the hive, or nearly all the bees will come up. I have tried this repeatedly the past season, on the common box hives (with a few auger holes in the top) as well as frame hives, with perfect success, and in five minutes time.

Before I discovered this plan I sometimes spent a long time, and then failed, in following the directions laid down by most bee-raisers.

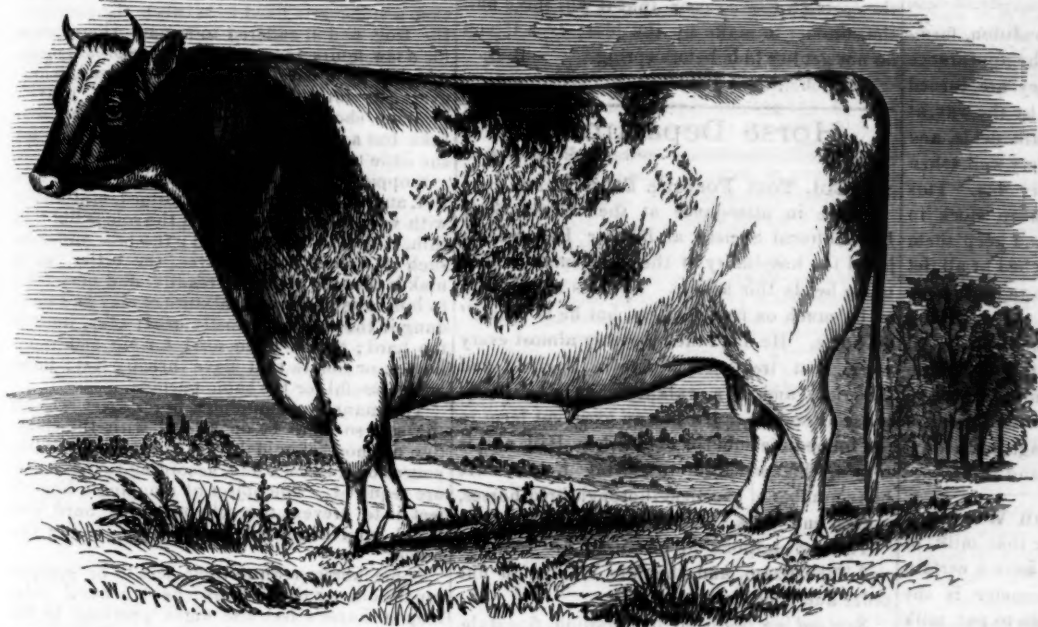
On the 27th ult., a cow belonging to Mr. James K. Estes, residing one mile north of Versailles, Morgan county, gave birth to a calf having a double head, with four distinct eyes, four nostrils and two mouths. Two of the eyes were in close proximity in the centre of the head in front. The heads joined at the neck, to which point they were separate and distinct.—From the back the calf was an ordinary one, but of large size. From the top of the head to the tail it measured three feet eight inches. This *lusus nature* lived only about forty-eight hours. Mr. Estes had the skin stuffed and is preserving it for the inspection of the curious in such matters.

X. A. Willard says that American dairying now represents a capital of \$700,000,000. The cheese product of 1867 sold for \$25,000,000, and the butter product of New York alone was nearly 85,000,000 pounds, and the quantity of cheese made 73,000,000 pounds. The value of these products, at a very moderate estimate, was \$50,000,000.

Secretary Klippart enumerates Ohio farm stock as follows: Horses, 698,909, valued at \$75,000,000, average over \$100 a head; mules, 25,272, valued at \$2,500,000, nearly \$100 a head; cattle, 1,504,550, valued at \$60,000,000; sheep, 7,622,495, valued at \$14,750,000; swine, 1,807,594, valued at \$20,000,000; total value of live stock, poultry omitted, \$162,250,000.



## "AYRSHIRE BULL BALDY."



The peculiarly excellent milking properties of the Ayrshire stock are now universally acknowledged, and are now attracting attention everywhere. Hardly a week passes by, but one or more letters of inquiry are received at this office about Ayrshire cattle. We intend to give our readers the portraits of one or more bulls, and several cows, and we hope they will examine them carefully.

The engraving represents the Bull Baldy, imported by Woolcott & Campbell, of New York Mills, in 1864. See American Herd Book, No. 90.

Owing to the extraordinary heat during this summer in Paris, all the tropical trees, flowered and produced fruits and seeds, even the manioc, indigo, cinnamon, coffee, banana, and also the cotton plant.

## FARMING ITEMS.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: For the last ten years I have desired to write for a paper, and would have done so ere this, but they never asked me to, and you did not say *me*, but said any of us, so I take you at your word.

Would here state that farming has not always been my business, any more than writing to the paper, as you may discover very soon; but last spring I "tried it on" this wise:

Early in February, after plowing five acres of ground, I sowed ten bushels of wheat (China Tea) on it. Well, I had a time of it—it was all gumbo, tough-o-o; but I kept at it, for I thought those little shells indicated wheat land. When it had grown up, every one who saw it said it would be worthless up to the very time it was ready to cut. Such a crop!

I got one hundred and thirty bushels of best clean wheat of the kind, and without any dressing, and for two days it was under water; being low land that was once the bottom of a lakelet. I think wheat will do well on such land for a number of years.

About the 20th of June, I became fearful that I would be unable to get cabbage plants to plant, so resolved to sow the seed on the same kind of land (gumbo) after sub-soiling it; accordingly I put on the teams, and all was done in a short time, and the little plants, which were in rows, three feet apart, came up very thickly; were thinned the first hoeing. Up to the 15th of August they did well, without any threatening danger but the drouth, against which they warred nobly. Just now the cry of grasshopper reached us, and now and then one would show his hand, which made me somewhat uneasy, and set me to thinking how I might save my cabbage by a little strategy. Knowing the varmints love some things better than others, I concluded to sow the space between the rows with turnip seed, in hope of diverting their attention—which just did it, for

as the young turnips came up they eat them, and I had a first rate crop of cabbage just from the seed alone, avoiding the trouble of transplanting: they were the Large Drumhead and Flat Dutch kinds.

Well I could sit and tell you such things all night about *myself* and *my farm*, if I didn't stop and wait till next time, to see how this suits you. Good-night. GUMBO.

St. Joe, Mo., Dec. 21st, 1868.

REMARKS.—Friend Gumbo—This suits us first rate. It is practical. It gives us facts, experience, just what we want. And we like your interesting way of telling it. By all means don't tire of so doing, but let us have something from your spicy pen often.

## Care of Our Agricultural College Lands.

FRIEND COLMAN: In my travels through the country, I find, in many places, lands that I think to be *Agricultural College Lands*, the timber of which is being destroyed to an alarming extent, for cross-ties, rails, wagon hubs, cordwood, saw-logs, &c., &c. This should not be allowed. I suggest that some man, who will attend to it thoroughly, be appointed at a fair compensation, by the Legislature. This would be a saving of many thousand dollars to the cause of education in the State, besides preventing large tracts of country from becoming unfit for settlement from want of timber. B. SMITH.

Cuba, Mo., Jan. 1st.

REMARKS.—Our correspondent has called attention to a very important matter. The appointment of such an officer, with instructions and authority to prosecute for every trespass of the kind alluded to, would save those lands from being denuded of timber. Every farmer in the State—every child in the State—has an interest in those lands, and should likewise expose any trespasser who is robbing them of their timber, and rendering them worthless.—Their value should be preserved so that the

most money possible can be obtained for them to advance the cause of Agricultural Education.

A Heifer or cow will make beef earlier than a steer. An old cow or an old sheep will not fatten nearly so well with hay as with grass. The longer the straw of any kind the worse as fodder; short straw is said to be invariably the most nutritious. Cattle always prefer that which is fresh threshed, a day even making a difference.

It is estimated that there are now at work in England about three hundred steam plows, and that these plows are securing some remarkable effects in English agriculture. Half a million acres, perhaps more, have been deeply and thoroughly pulverized by this style of plowing. It is said that a steam plow, penetrating to a depth before unknown, and moving with a rapidity of four miles an hour, breaks up and disintegrates the soil four times more than the ordinary horse plow moving at the rate of two miles an hour. By the depth to which the plows penetrate, new elements are brought into the working soil, and surprising crops are the consequence.

## Lands in Pettis County, Missouri.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: In answer to your correspondent C. M. O'Hara, of Bolivar, Tenn., in your last issue you say "lands near Sedalia, well adapted for grazing, sell for \$50 per acre," and in the next sentence, that along the North Missouri railroad "good unimproved lands may be had at \$10 per acre." You do not describe the condition of the lands near Sedalia. If you mean "unimproved," your estimate is very far from correct. But few "improved farms in Pettis, of which Sedalia is the county seat, ever sell so high as \$50 an acre. In Pettis, "unimproved" lands are worth from \$3 to \$25 per acre, mostly from \$10 to \$15, except in the immediate vicinity of Sedalia. The writer of this has some fair prairie land in Pettis, within twelve miles of Sedalia, which he offers at \$5, and others "well adapted to grazing," for which he will take \$10, making the payments easy on all, the prices at the same time being moderate. J. M.

## The Dairy.

When stock appears in good condition, farmers are too often satisfied with the appearance without close examination. They are turned on the meadows (a bad practice, by the way, at this time of year) or into the stalk fields, and the owner thinks they are doing very well, when in fact they are losing flesh every day. This is very poor economy indeed—keep stock in heart now, and feed them full and keep them gaining, and if they must be pinched at all, let it be late in the spring. Milch cows must have the best of care now, because in the next, and succeeding month, many become fresh. All of such should have food calculated to develop the secretion of milk. We recommend, as the very best, mill-feed and bran, with a mess of beets, carrots, turnips, or cabbage, each day. Let them also have good shelter and litter.

### Care of Milk for Butter in Winter.

Dairy maids should remember that milk, in order to throw up cream, must have a certain temperature. Where a thermometer is the index, about 70°. It will not do to put milk into the cellar at this time of year, because in, are most likely vegetables and fruit:—every farmer's cellar should contain a full supply of these, not only for the family use, but also to sell in spring. No good butter can be made when milk is exposed to the effluvia arising from vegetables. When the new milk has been strained, place the pans; or, if you please, the tin pail, on the stove and heat the milk almost to the boiling point; then place it on the shelves in the buttery. The cream will rise soon and the milk will keep sweet.

In order to sour cream sufficient for churning, it often becomes necessary to add a little of the butter-milk from the previous churning. Remember that the temperature of cream at the time of churning should be about 62°. Thermometers are so cheap now-a-days, that every dairy maid should have one handy. One sufficiently accurate for the purpose may be obtained for about seventy five cents.

If your churning will "not come" readily, it often helps it to add a little common salt—about one-half the quantity required for the amount of butter produced from the cream in churn.

### TIE UP THE COWS.

When the cold weather first set in, I fixed up a good, warm stable, for my cow, with a good manger to hold the feed, since which time she has not been out of the stable, except an hour or two on pleasant days. She has no feed except *sowed corn* (a bundle three times a day), and a bucketfull of warm slop made of wheat bran; or, what is better, meal, made of ground sorghum seed, morning and night. She is but a common Missouri cow, nothing extra, but she gives from seven to ten quarts of milk per day, and sometimes even more; keeps in good flesh, and I have a warm place to milk in this bad weather; and, as she has a good bed, changed once a day, she does not get all covered with filth. Is not this better than the usual slipshod way of wintering the cow in an open yard

or in the fence corner?—have no butter to put on your cakes, no milk for your coffee, and in the spring a cow so poor that it will take half the summer to make up the loss; even if you do not get her hide before spring. B. S.  
Cuba, Mo., Dec. 1868.

## Horse Department.

### Col. Tom Foster's Stud Farm.

While in attendance at the Illinois State Horticultural Society, at Bunker Hill, we enjoyed the hospitality of the gentleman whose name heads this article. He does not pretend to be much on fruit matters, but he is "some" on horse. He has raked together almost every work that treats on horses in England and America, and is a walking Encyclopedia of horse literature. He has an excellent farm in the immediate suburbs of Bunker Hill, and is turning his attention to raising horses. He has a number of excellent thorough-bred horses, mares and colts.

The two stallions he has used, are Scotland and Tobe Drum, and they are looking in fine order and condition.

Scotland is a beautiful bay stallion, fine style, five or six years old, by imported Bonnie Scotland; dam Young Fashion, by imported Monarch, he by imported Priam, out of imported Delphine, by Whisker; grand-dam Old Fashion, by imported Trustee, &c.

Tobe Drum is likewise of bay color, by Lexington; dam Attala, by Ruffin, he by imported Hedford, out of the Duchess of Marlborough, by Sir Archie, &c. Col. Foster would sell one of these fine stallions, and their pedigrees speak for themselves.

Our fancy was particularly pleased by a beautiful bay mare, called Lady Cornwell. She was sired by Hassan, he by Imaum, an Arabian horse, presented to Martin Van Buren, while President of the United States, by the Emperor of Morocco. Hassan's dam was Utility (see Turf Register); Lady Cornwell's dam Columbiana was by Revenge; grand dam by old Post Boy.

Col Foster intends to give much attention to breeding horses, and we wish him abundant success.

### THRUSH IN HORSES.

MR. N. J. COLMAN:—I have a valuable mare troubled with thrush. Can you give me the best method of treating it. B. D.

ANSWER:—Thrush is generally produced by a foul condition of the stable. The first thing to do is, to thoroughly cleanse that. Put the mare in a clean, dry stall. Wash the feet well with soap and water, removing from the cleft between the frog and hoof all fetid matter. Now apply powdered sulphate of copper, and press a little tow into the cleft. Pursue this course for a few days and the mare will be well.

FASTEST TROTTING TIME.—Col. Colman: Can you give me Ethan Allen's fastest trotting time with running mate? M.

ANSWER—His fastest time was made in his match race with running mate against Dexter, for \$1,000, on the Fashion Course. He won in three straight heats, in 2:15, 2:16 and 2:19.

### Treatment of Horses' Feet.

Every time that a horse comes in from work, be sure to examine his feet, for it often happens that a stone gets fixed in between the shoe and the frog, and if suffered to remain there, even for a few hours, may cause a bruise or lameness, which a little care may prevent: indeed, whatever gets into the foot, whether sand, gravel, or stone, should be carefully removed; this will take but a few minutes, and will pay well for the little trouble it occasions.

Stopping the feet is only practiced on the fore feet, and when judiciously performed, is attended with very good effects; but if the sole is flat and thin, it will be best avoided; the less moisture such a formed foot receives, the better, as it makes the sole yield too readily, and may tend to lame the horse. A mixture of clay and cowdung is the stopping mostly used: clay, itself is too hard; tow is often used for gig and road-horses, or horses that have thrushy feet: moss is also useful for the same purpose.

The manner of stopping a horse's feet is to fill the sole so as to be on a level with the shoe; tow or moss should be put in dry, and water poured on it twice a day, according to the moisture required. The object of stopping a horse's feet is to prevent the sole becoming hard and frigid from being too dry, and so laming the horse.

Some horses require their feet to be stopped much oftener than others; as a general rule, stop a horse's feet the night previous to his being shod; once a week will generally be found sufficient: from Saturday night till Monday morning, is a very good time to apply stopping, but in hot summer weather, twice or three times a week will not be too often.

It is sometimes the practice to anoint the crust or the wall of the foot, that is, the part of the hoof which presents itself to the eye when the horse is standing on his feet; whether this plan is good or not, depends on the foot itself. To render a rigid, strong foot elastic, the horn should be saturated with water; and to keep it elastic this should be applied before the water evaporates; while to keep a thin, weak foot hard and unyielding, without making it brittle, an ointment should be used to prevent the absorption of water. In wet weather, a thin foot should be oiled before the horse goes out, and a strong, thick foot after the horse comes in; in hot dry weather, the ointment should be renewed every second or third day.

The oil usually had for this purpose, is fish oil for anointing the hoof; but a mixture made of equal quantities of tar, lard, oil, and beeswax, is a better and more durable application.

SHOEING.—The proper and timely performance of this necessary operation, is of the utmost consequence to the well-being of the horse.—Generally speaking, a month is the time between the last and the succeeding shoeing. Care should be taken every time the horse comes in from his work, to examine his shoes as well as his feet; for want of this, it sometimes happens that the shoe drops off in the middle of a journey; not only is time then lost, but the foot becomes injured, and probably the horse lamed.

Fast-working horses require to have the feet pared at least once a month, without reference to whether they need new shoes or not. If the horn be suffered to grow, the action of the horse becomes impeded; he cannot step out properly, or place his foot firmly on the ground; from this reason it is necessary, at least once a month, to pare off the superfluous horn, unless the horse should be one having a deficiency of horn; in which case, he may go five weeks or even more. At any time, should there be a loose or broken nail, or a clench started, or if a horse be cutting, call in the farrier at once.

The shoe, and the proper time and mode of its application varies, in accordance with the weight of the horse and its action, particularly with reference to the state of the roads, and the nature



of his work. This part of the subject may however be left to the farrier, who will be but little fit to be intrusted if he requires to be told what to do; he should be the adviser, not the advised.

—*American Stock Journal.*

**CARE OF DEXTER.**—At six every morning, Dexter has all the water he wants, and two quarts of oats. After eating, he is "walked" for half an hour or more, then cleaned off, and at nine has two quarts more of oats. If no drive is on the card for afternoon, he is given a half to three quarters of an hour of gentle exercise. At one o'clock he has oats again, as before, limited to two quarts.

From three to four, he is driven twelve to fifteen miles; after which he is cleaned off and rubbed thoroughly dry.

He has a bare swallow of water on return from drive, but is allowed free access to his only feed of hay, of which he consumes from five to six pounds.

If the drive has been a particularly sharp one, he is treated, as soon as he gets in, to a quart or two of oatmeal-gruel; and when thoroughly cooled, has half a pail of water and three quarts of oats, with two quarts of bran moistened with hot water.

Before any specially hard day's work or trial of speed, his allowance of water is still more reduced.

**DEATH OF A VALUABLE HORSE.**—The celebrated "Auburn horse," owned by Mr. Bonner, died on Wednesday evening of spasmodic colic. He had been subject to attacks from this complaint for a year or two. This is the first valuable horse that Mr. Bonner has lost in ten years. At one time the "Auburn" was considered the fastest horse in the country, but Mr. Bonner owns three—*Dexter*, *Pocahontas* and *Peerless*—that have proved superior to him. He also owns another that he has never had in his stable yet, because he had no room for him. We refer to the famous young horse *Bruno*, which with his mate made a wonderful performance in double harness a year ago. When Mr. Bonner was up in Suffolk county, last Fall, he saw this horse trot a mile in remarkably fast time on Mr. Burr's private training grounds, and at once bought him. He will now take the place of the "Auburn" horse.

The best gait a horse ever had for every day use, is a good walk. It is a gait not one in ten possesses. Colts are not trained to walk in all the Eastern States. Young America wants more speed. Kentucky has more good walking horses than any other State, for there horseback traveling has long been in fashion for men and women over a country where muddy roads at times render any other gait impossible, and so horses have been bred to the saddle and trained to a walking gait. This is also the case in all the Western States, and perhaps might have been so in New England, when our grandmothers rode to meeting on a pillion behind our grandfathers. But one-horse wagons have put horseback riding out of fashion, and now a good walking horse is more rare than one that can trot a mile in 2:40.

"Our Dumb Animals," says that measures are now in progress to put on our railroads specimen cars for the transportation of cattle, in which they can be regularly and properly fed, watered and rested. Every man who eats the flesh of animals has a vital interest in this subject. He may have no regard for the tortures inflicted on the poor creatures on almost every cattle train between here and Texas, but if he has regard for his own life and health, or others dear to him, who are daily feeding upon diseased meats, he ought to feel thankful to his Maker for every onward step towards the abolition of these horrible cruelties.

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

May, Wilson Co., Kansas.—Send us your name and address, and we will cheerfully answer your questions.

CORRESPONDENTS will please give us their real name and address always, if they wish their communications published or answered. If they have good reason to withhold the name from the publication, we will do so, but we must be posted correctly.

If an answer by mail is desired, it would be well to enclose a stamp. This request has been published before, and we hope our correspondents will govern themselves accordingly.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: Please inform me where and by whom a rotating spading plow is manufactured. I should like to try one, as I think the idea a good one. I noticed in a number of your paper where it was on exhibition at Quincy, Ill., last fall. Also where a good and pure breed of Brahmas, or other good kinds, can be had? Also pure blooded Berkshire hogs. I should like to have your opinion on California spring wheat, to be sown in this portion of Illinois. I have two bushels raised in said State last spring, and am at a loss to know when to sow it—early or late. J. W. E.

ANSWER.—For a rotary spading plow address Ed. Young & Bro., Joliet, Ills. For Brahma and other poultry, and also for Berkshire pigs, address G. B. Alverson & Son, Cherry Valley, Winnebago Co., Ills.

If your ground is in good order and has been plowed last fall, sow your spring wheat the first chance you have, when the soil is in condition, say in March. Two bushels will sow about one-and-a-quarter acres—provided your land is rich; if your soil is rather thin, sow the two bushels on one acre; and if you want to do a nice job, sow with a drill. Sow immediately about six bushels of unleached ashes, and about two bushels of salt, and report result to this paper for publication.

Peter Scanzi will accept thanks for kind hints, and will find them attended to hereafter.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: In a late issue I saw the article on the Minor Convolvulus but do not see any advertisement of the seed. I should like to get a little of it. I am just starting a small home here "on the prairies," and wish to make it attractive as well as profitable, and shall as fast as I am able follow the teachings of the RURAL. J. W., Dunlap, Iowa.

ANSWER.—See advertisement of James Vick, of Rochester, New York, in Jan. 2d issue. We presume you can get it, by mail, from him—he is reliable.

WILL IT PAY TO RAISE TOBACCO IN ILLINOIS?—Good prices have been received for tobacco during the season which is just closing, and we presume will always be paid for a superior article. But the successful growing of tobacco, like any other branch of business, requires routine and, in this case, considerable outlay for buildings, &c. Besides all this it is considered a very hard crop on land, and we think, for one inexperienced with all the minutiae, it will not pay. To be sure there is nothing so intricate in the growing of this weed but what may be acquired, but we do not advise a subscriber to go into the business.

J. J. D., Augusta, Georgia, wishes to hear from South-western Missouri, as a farming or grazing country, and also something about the new towns, now so rapidly springing up. We shall be pleased to publish responses.

There are many portions in the South-west part of our State very desirable for farming purposes; but those desiring to locate had better come and see. We always think it safest to advise our friends to see for themselves, because there is so many ways in which different individuals view the same thing.

The South Pacific Railroad is opening up a very fine section of country, and will hold out great inducements to settlers of the right class. If parties visiting St. Louis and desiring information will visit the office of this paper, we will give them the best we have at command.

THE NEW YORK PIPPIN.—Eds. Rural World: Will you please to give me a full description of this apple? There is in this neighborhood four or five varieties, bought for the New York Pippin. If you can give a description of the apple through your valuable columns, you will oblige a subscriber.

ANSWER.—"Tree remarkably healthy and vigorous; an upright and rapid grower in the nursery, and has numerous short spur branches along the stem. In the orchard the limbs are set very strongly, and the stems are marked by little mammillar projections or knobs, that are very characteristic. Tree large, spreading, productive; bears early; shoots long, reddish brown, smooth; foliage large, dark green."

"Fruit large, variable, in form round, often apparently oblong, tapering to the eye, truncated, regular, sometimes inclined, generally very true. Surface smooth, often polished, yellow covered with mixed red, splashed bright red; dots minute, scattered."

"Basis generally shallow, in large developed specimens deep, abrupt, always regular; eye large, open; segments reflexed."

"Cavity deep, acute, wavy brown; stem medium to large; core medium, regular, clasping the eye; seeds large, plump; flesh whitish, breaking, tender, juicy; flavor sub-acid, not rich; quality only good. Use—market, kitchen; season—December, January, and longer."—[Warder's Pomology.]

REMARKS.—North of the south Iowa State line will keep until May.

## Improved Alton Nutmeg Melon.

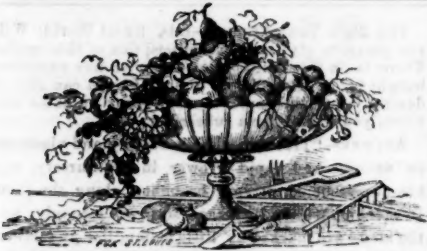


We present our readers to-day with a fine picture of the *Improved Alton Nutmeg Melon*, expressly engraved for the *Rural World*, and which is claimed by Mr. Barler, the originator, to be a perfect representation. From it, it is not difficult to judge of its superior size. Our seeds are going fast, so send along your name and a stamped envelope, if you wish to grow this luscious melon next season.

## COMPLIMENTARY.

We could fill our paper with complimentary remarks upon our journal. The following private letter is a sample of hundreds constantly coming to hand:

COL. N. J. COLMAN: I remitted two dollars for the *Rural World* for the year 1869, while in Alton, some days since, and at the time forgot your Nutmeg Melon offer. Your paper is a full recompense for the money invested. Next to my Bible, it is the most eagerly watched for of any reading matter whatever; and I attribute much of the little I know about the cultivation of the soil to its perusal. Yet you offer a present in seed, of above melon, and I would, if not too late, be pleased to have the opportunity of fleshing my teeth in one of these delicacies, through you. Very truly, L. B. Godfrey, Ills.



## HORTICULTURAL.

### PEARS.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: You recommend to Enquirer, in a late number, a list of varieties of pears for standard and dwarf culture. The list may, as a whole, be adapted to the section of the country from which the enquiry came—although that is not named—but it should not, in my judgement, go out for general planting without considerable modification. I will, if you please, make some remarks concerning the varieties named, as we understand them among the hills of "Egypt"—

*Tyson*—Trees are healthy, very free from blight, and, although very tardy bearers, the superior quality of the fruit compensates a few years' of waiting. On the whole, the best of its season.

Of the *Bartlett* nothing need be said, except that its great fruitfulness and popularity make it the most profitable pear, notwithstanding its disposition to blight.

The *Seckel* grows large enough with us to be a fair market pear, and its planting will increase. Good pears are just as easily grown as poor ones. By all means plant more Seckels.

But the recommendation of *Flemish Beauty* should be made with great caution; and for those particular localities where it is known to do well—if there are any such—with us it loses its leaves prematurely, and fails to ripen its crop. The pears commence rotting at the core, and are apt to deceive the purchaser by their fine appearance—their often exceeding beauty. There are plenty of pears at this season that do well. Don't trust *Flemish Beauty*.

The *Belle Lucrative* is a noble and profitable pear; it gets a fine selling color, on high and poor land, and has a universal sweetness. But, if I were planting both dwarf and standard, I should make this a dwarf; as the fruit is finer, and the tree healthier. Next to *Duchess* this is our best dwarf.

Of the *Sheldon* I can only say, "promising well." Tree a beautiful grower and early bearer.

The *Winter Nelis* is too far South with us, probably. It loses its leaves early; and occasionally, as this season, has a second foliage. The fruit is consequently imperfect in quality. But we need not mourn much about the *Nelis*, as the *Lawrence* fills the same season with a perfection in all respects that is unrivalled.

*Louise Bonne*, *Buerre Diel* and *Glout Morceau*—are none of them quite at home on our clay hills. They are faulty in foliage and liable to astringency of fruit. We need more experience with *Easter Buerre*, but it promises to be one of our most important fruits.

I think your list would be more complete if it opened the season with *Doyenne d'Ete* and embraced *Howell* and *Buerre d'Anjou*. Both these pears are healthy in tree, foliage and fruit, and will prove very profitable orchard pears. The latter, in particular, comes at a season when the market is getting somewhat empty, and when good pears are very desirable.

May I suggest one good general rule in the selection of varieties—to avoid all those kinds liable to astringency when not quite suited with soil or climate.

P. E.

South Pass, Ills., Dec. 24th, 1868.

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

### Fruit Trees—Nursery Products and Stocks at the West.

It is but a few years ago, when all our trees, plants and shrubbery, came from the East.—The remark was: "Are those trees from Rochester nurseries?" on the exhibition of a lot of trees by an agent. This has, in a great measure, passed away. Why? More than any other cause, the sending out of dishonest and irresponsible men to canvass for the sale of their products: a set of scoundrels as unprincipled as satan, who would sell a man twenty varieties of apples or pears, and take them all from the same row of refuse trees at the nursery. The people of the West felt a necessity in growing their own trees to know they had varieties suited to their soil and climate. The work of production, in the way of nursery products at the West, has become enormous.—They are scattered all over the broad surface of our boundless West—not small, slow-growing concerns, with heavy stocks of old trees—but stock, young and vigorous. One firm with millions of evergreens grown from seed—another with hundreds of acres of Osage hedge plants—another with thousands upon thousands of seedlings of forest trees—and still another making the growing of the Red Cedar a business, with thousands of vigorous trees for sale, from four inches to three feet. And thus, all is planted as though they mean business; millions of apple and pear stocks are grown yearly—grape vines in endless quantity; bulbs, small fruits and shrubbery, by the acre. Nursery growing at the West is a success, owing to the rich, quick soil, the skill in cultivation, and the honesty and integrity of the grower.

In conversation the other day, with an agent of an Eastern nursery, who was taking orders for tree strawberry, called *Jucunda*—which he represented as being a little tree eighteen inches high—he laughed at us when we told him many Eastern nurserymen were buying large quantities of stock West to supply customers, and that large quantities of stock go East yearly to be grown for sale. It was new to him: history had not followed rapidly enough the nursery growth at the West.

Year by year the nurserymen of the West are more fully perfecting a system of growing good trees, true to name, at cheaper rates, than it can be possibly done at the East.

Vineyards are being extensively planted, and the results are satisfactory. Wine from our own State commands a high figure in the seaboard cities of the East, and is produced at

about one-half the cost. We are not yet in possession of the palatial homes, the magnificent glass structures, the fine lawns and shaded streets and avenues of our friends at the East—yet our advancement in fruit growing and production of nursery products, is far ahead, for the time occupied.

CONCORD.

### THE DECEMBER FREEZE.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: How is it with the peaches North? What was the consequences of December 9th and 10th? What was the temperature of St. Louis and vicinity? Have you any peaches left? Did you not have 18° below zero? If so you have no peaches left. The temperature of Oak Hill was 10° below zero. I find every third bud of Scott's Early, and Early York killed dead, but this will not materially injure our crop, we can spare three out of four of the whole crop of buds. Crawford's Early, one-half gone. Crawford's Late, not one in ten gone. Mammoth Early, one in ten killed. Honey Cling, not more than one in ten; but this is caused by heavy timber on north and north-west. Mammoth Early trees stand in full sweep of north-west wind. Seedling trees hurt as bad as any of budded fruit; all peach trees, seedlings and budded, are hardy alike, if in same position and same age, except Crawford's Early; this peach, I think, is somewhat tender at all times in winter, but I find that the age of a tree makes it more hardy. I have examined several orchards in my locality, and find that our crop is not hurt on high ground thus far. I hope that other peach-growers will give through the RURAL the condition of the peach buds in December. We have had our peach crop injured in December, three out of four years, or I may say four out of five. The last night of December, '63, killed peaches and trees. I had to cut my trees back as follows: Scott's Early, Early York, Mammoth Early, Large Yellow Rarapier, Old Mixon, Free and Cling, two feet. Honey Cling or Seedling of South Carolina, Lemon Cling, ten inches. Crawford's Late was not killed back eight inches. Crawford's Late will stand more freezing than any other peach tree. This is my experience: those who have Crawford's Late will please examine close this winter, and see if I am not right about it. The compact condition of Crawford's Late blossom buds is what saves them in winter. The loose, husky condition of Crawford's Early is the cause of its tenderness, and I am sorry to say, this is too much the case with all the early varieties; but after the sap starts in spring, or in case of frost or freezing either just before or after blooming time, I find all peaches subject alike to be killed; seedlings are as tender as any. I advise those who are planting orchards for profit to plant Crawford's Late strong. I admit it is a sort of pumpkinish peach, but it is better to have pumpkins flavored with peach, than to have no peach at all. Another thing is, if your Crawford's Late trees are twenty years old you will have large peaches on them; it is their nature to be big.

W. M. J.

Rockwood, Ill.

ANSWER.—We fear that the peaches in this immediate vicinity are all killed—at any rate that is the general report, and we have made many inquiries.

From the best information we can get the thermometer was down to 12° below. We gave the temperature at different points in the paper next succeeding the dates given. We heard of no place east of Leavenworth, where 18° below was reached.

We do not think it was the degree of cold, but the advanced state of the buds that produced these bad results.

WINE AND GRAPE GROWING ASSOCIATION.—There will be a meeting of the above named association for the State of Illinois, in Peoria, on the 18th of February. It is expected that there will be a large convention; probably from four to six hundred grape growers will be present. They will be from every portion of the State, and will be a concentration of pretty much all the talent in this department, that the State contains. In this view of the case, the meeting will be of much importance. A general discussion of the best methods of grape culture, and the production of wines, will doubtless be had, which cannot fail to produce beneficial effects.



### LANDSCAPE GARDENING.

[An Essay read by M. G. Kern, before the Missouri State Horticultural Society.]

Ornamental gardening, the art and practice of improving and beautifying grounds, has been governed, throughout the course of its history, by two distinct ideas. Its primitive principle, prevailing over centuries of slowly progressing civilization, was that of artificiality.

To make its productions distinctly unlike those of nature, was the fundamental effort of all ancient styles of gardening. The Italian, the Dutch and French styles, in their days the fashion of the world, copied wherever wealth and power reared palatial mansions, are successive modifications only of the all-prevailing notion, to set aside the forms of nature, and to produce in their stead features—artificial, grotesque, and dictated purely by imagination. The freedom-loving tree, shorn of its graceful boughs and forms, was made to represent a stone wall, hay-stack or a peacock.

Designs made up of ever-repeating, regular and geometrical patterns, could not fail to produce that splendid monotony, for which the ancient gardens are so famous. Advancing civilization and refinement, more fully comprehending nature as the source of real beauty, began to strive for it, instead of arbitrary fancy. And this desire called forth that new, progressive dispensation, which we call the landscape style, or landscape gardening.

It is not my intention to present this subject as a science, come to us from abroad; nor do I wish to point the Western farmer to the famed parks and gardens of Europe or the Eastern States, upon which streams of treasure have been lavished. To refer him only to the charming scenery of our Western country; and to point out the elements of beauty transferred from nature to our grounds, is the object of these pages.

It may not be unprofitable to glance at first, though hastily, over the many so-called ornamental grounds, which surround the happy country houses of our land. Are not most of them a confused mass of trees and shrubs and flowers, planted, as it were, to suit the sheerest fancy of the owner? Such grounds, when neatly kept, may be very pleasant to the eye. Their verdant lawns and shady groves, invite our praise and admiration, but landscape gardening—the art to make a scene resembling nature—has no relation to man's confused mass of shade and foliage.

The elements of beauty, of which the endless variety of nature's scenery is composed, form the broad and lasting platform upon which the art of landscape gardening has been built. To analyze these elements, in their manifold connections to each other, and to distinguish them from many defects found in outward scenery, should be the study of the improver. To produce features, essentially beautiful and true to nature; and to suit them with good sense or judgment to the greatest degree of utility for our grounds—this is what we call good taste in landscape gardening.

Let us examine a fine landscape, seen from a certain distance, either in nature or on canvas. What is it which lends to it attraction, or produces that pleasing emotion, which you call its beauty? This landscape is a group of objects, harmoniously united and combined, and blended by a proper balance of light and shade, and of form and color. Take away this genial harmony, or the pleasing contrasts, and all the beauty has departed. Ignore in gardening this fundamental principle of harmony and of contrast, and you will produce naught but confusion.

And here you have the key-note to a rational system of grouping, without which no picture can be imagined. You divide the light from the shade by a due proportion of lawn and wood. You contrast one group from its neighbor by the tint of its foliage, by the outlines of its boughs, or by the colors of the flowers.

In this way is it that landscape gardening produces variety. How different, indeed, is such variety from the all-prevailing, hap hazard mixture which makes up our grounds at the present.

To mention another sad abuse of landscape gardening in this connection, let us look at the figures, forms and outlines seen in many gardens. Is it in the shape of a heart, a pear, a star, or the half-moon, that the beautiful groups of nature stand up in bold relief? Are not such ridiculous jimcracks almost universally admired and freely copied, mistaken for most excellent taste by many whose sense of true taste should be better?

Contrast with such absurdities the graceful forms, the flowing outline, the native liberty of a thousand groups and masses, sprung up in the woodland or the prairie, on the hillsides or in the valleys—forms harmonious and contrasted, in bolder masses here, in lighter linings there. To create a scene resembling nature, this endless line of beauty must be imitated. With varied outlines and the proper blending of form and color well applied, your work will nigh resemble nature's patterns.

Intimately connected with the laws of natural planting, is the consideration of the conformation of the ground, upon which you operate. The shaping of its surface is of the utmost importance in the arrangement of scenery—in the same ratio indeed as the surface of a country conditions the character of its scenery. As a rolling country is more pleasant to the eye than a flat and monotonous plain, so will pleasing undulations of the lawns be more productive of beauty in our grounds. Wherever this transformation from the level to the gentle rolling can be attained, without too large an expense of moving of ground, it should not be left undone.

We have said above that the surface of the ground conditions the entire character of scenery. Upon this axiom landscape gardening has divided the gently undulating, with its corresponding character of grace and roundness in its groupings—from the boldly broken and and spirited formations, knowing the one as the beautiful or graceful, the other as picturesque scenery. These distinct characteristics should always be adhered to. A pernicious mixing of the one with the other will ever produce a marring discord, detected at the first glance. To place a bit of the picturesque, say a piece of rock-work, upon a smooth and dressed lawn, before your very front door, as it is often seen, is ridiculous in the extreme.

And this same consideration of the external fitness of things must prevail throughout. If you introduce water in your picture; you must place it on the lowest ground, and shun all idea of the stiffness of a straight canal or a round and artificial pool.

Operating with rock-work you should always place it where it might have sprung up on its own account in nature. Each feature must have its precedent in nature. Devoid of this, it becomes an utter absurdity.

With the same rule of common sense, you should treat all considerations of comfort and convenience, so essential to your permanent abiding place. A road or walk is a necessity, and not a component indispensable to scenery. It should therefore, clad in graceful lines, appear a helpmate and not a contradiction. Its object should be plainly seen, its graceful curve or winding bend must appear a matter of necessity rather than of choice. The shape of the ground and groups along its line must explain and reconcile its course. An apparently useless or a vainly twisted road, though often met with, is always an indication of very doubtful taste, and lack of common sense.

Sound judgment also will guide you in the choice of the scale on which improvement should be made. It will not allow you to attempt an elaborate or complicated design in

miniature, on a spot where natural plainness would be very pleasing.

Whatever could not grow and thrive in nature on a given spot, should also not appear as forced and cramped into our grounds.

Let us illustrate this rational choice of scale, and its proper adaptation, by some examples found in outward scenery.

In your rambles through the fields and forests, you come to a group or thicket, whose exquisite beauty excites your admiration. Though small in extent, its blooming outlines are full of charms of native freedom. You admire it with a silent wish to take it up and to transplant it whole and undisturbed into your garden, as its size would fully suit your yard, cut up at present by petty walks and fancy flower beds. Here is an offering which rational landscape gardening has for you. Accept of it, and you will have a thing of nature's beauty well applied. You choose the choicest shrubs and flowers for its formation, and these will make your group far more inviting than the original which you admired in the woods.

A shady cluster of lofty forest trees will also teach you how to protect the homestead from the sun and wind. Plant such a cluster in your yard, and shortly you will acknowledge that groves are very pleasant and much finer than your neighbors' scattered trees.

To present another example, let me point you to one of the many beautiful wood-embowered gentle elevations, those gems of prairie scenery, as they run along and join on to the timber lands. Feeble words indeed cannot describe the smiling, graceful beauty of such a scene. The wish to build your home, to rear your children and to spend your days on such a spot, could surely not be called a wicked thought; and why not make your dwelling place just such a favorite, charming spot? A slight acquaintance with the ways of landscape gardening will teach you how to beautify your dear prairie home, in native prairie style. We do not advise you to copy from a millionaire's pleasure ground, but from the most inviting scenes which you can study from your very door.

But what of the untold, sun-burnt, wind-afflicted towns and houses looming up on all sides on our treeless prairies? Has progressive Horticulture no advice for them to offer but orchards, apples, grapes or pears? The rising generation will eat your fruit, but will demand besides a modest taste of landscape gardening.

But from the bleak and open prairies, let us enter the thick and gloomy forest, which yet covers untold acres of our State. A weary tramp may bring us to a spot where we can see the sun again. And what a scene of beauty is such an opening in the woods. A truly splendid lawn, surrounded by majestic masses of lofty trees, and spreading shrubs, distinct in outline and foliage, and bordered as it were, by a wooded landscape in the far-off distance. And here one word to the dweller in the woods. Your home, a cottage or mansion, should be surrounded with just such a timbered lawn. All elements of beauty are in your forest, awaiting only your skilful axe, to develop them into a picture. Select your openings, and your distinct leading groupings and masses, in graceful and intricate contours; you save a cluster here, and there a pleasant thicket, to which you may add the various rarer trees and shrubs you wish to plant. How many charming pleasure grounds could landscape gardening, rightly understood, bring forth, with but a small additional expense. But nowhere is nature's kindest gift of beauty, or the voice of common sense, more sadly and ignobly murdered, than in the clearing and destruction of our woods. A lamentable practice of planless cutting down or uniform and tasteless thinning out, has ruined the charm of many a beautiful forest home. And when the job of destruction is completed, you see the sham improver setting out his ragged locusts, evergreens and some flowering bushes, hap-hazard as his

whim and fancy may dictate. Is this intelligent Horticulture, or what shall we call it?

Horticulture has been called the poetry of Agriculture. What is it that should make it so? We will cheerfully grant a little more poetry to a ruby strawberry than to a potato, or a higher and loftier meaning to a barrel of fiery wine, than to a pile of corn, however large. But if the aim and ultimate of Horticulture is only the production of fruit and wine (which is nothing but food), then it may as well divide the honor of its poetry with Agriculture at large. To be of higher order it must yield enjoyment to the mind, dropping wreaths of beauty all along its path. Realizing this distinction, man has taken the lovely flower from its native and retired spot and placed it before his door, knowing that "a thing of beauty is a joy forever." This impulse for the beautiful has been the cradle of Floriculture and of ornamental gardening generally. And has not this branch of Horticulture ever closely followed the onward march of mind, of civilization and refinement? And will the intelligent and educated horticulturist of the West pretend that ornamental gardening will not pay? I trust that every one will offer cheerfully his helping hand to foster and to encourage the noble cause of throwing beauty, comfort and refinement broadcast around our Western homes. And our Horti-

cultural societies, though overpowered at present by the rage for fruits and manufactured wines, will they not lead the column of progress and improvement alike in all the various branches of the charge intrusted to their fostering care?

We have the promise that the earth shall bloom again like Eden. To hasten its fulfillment, let every one begin at home to regenerate his own dominion and let him strive to re-enthroned the ideal of beauty which nature has scattered so bountifully throughout our land.

#### American Pomological Society.

We learn from the President of the American Pomological Society, Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, that he has appointed Sept. 15, 1869, for the next session of the association in Philadelphia. This society is now in its twentieth year embracing the most celebrated cultivators in the Union. It was the first National Pomological Society established in the world, since which its example has been followed by the British Pomological, the Royal Belgian and other national societies of Europe. Its sessions have been held in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Cincinnati, Rochester and St. Louis, and it has wielded an immense influence over the fruit culture of our country.

#### THE LUPINE.

This is a genus of the old-fashioned, well-known, hardy annuals, of a rather large and coarse growth, but of easy culture, succeeding in almost any soil: they are free blooming and highly ornamental, but do not transplant well—therefore, should be planted where intended to remain and bloom. This, however, is easily accomplished, as the Lupine belongs to the Pea or Bean family, and has a large, hard, bean-like seed, which may be planted early in spring, a couple of inches deep, either singly or in patches of two or three—not too close together.

The plant is rather sparse of foliage, but has a spreading, branching habit; each branch terminating in a large spike of thickly clustered bean-like flowers, of numerous colors, in the different varieties. The colors in different kinds embrace white, blue, yellow, rose and even scarlet, besides numerous shades of the above; and, in many cases, two colors—as blue and white, or purple, or yellow—in the same flower.

Altogether—their ease of culture, conspicuous, showy flowers, and not unhandsome foliage and habit—render them quite desirable flowers. C. S.

#### APPLES AT HANNIBAL.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: "There is but one orchard within my knowledge where a full crop of the Rawles' Janet has been gathered this year." Quoted from a report "on the condition of orchards in the vicinity of Hannibal," before the M. S. H. Society, and published in your issue of Dec. 12th, 1868. I desire to amend that report, by adding that among the Saverton Hills, in Ralls Co.—much nearer Hannibal than the "one" orchard of Mr. Taylor Jones—are several orchards which bore full crops this year, of Rawles' Janet; and larger apples, higher colored and better flavored, than can be grown anywhere else in this region—grapes ditto. And if these apples were not given away to friends and neighbors, they were sold at the highest price in the city of Hannibal; and all who bought them wanted more, declaring them to be the finest apples in the market.

While I have your ear Mr. Editor, let me ask, why do you quote this apple as "Jeneton?" "Janiton," I once saw written on a lot of barrels

at Clarksville. Why perpetuate a misnomer? J. G. I., Hannibal, Mo.

REMARKS—We thank our correspondent for his criticism in regard to the name of the apple commonly known as Jeneton. The popular name is Jeneton, and we may have so called it sometimes: but the true name is the RAWLES' JANET, and by that name it should be known and used. We hope J. G. I. will keep up his correspondence and criticisms.



## The Vineyard.

### THE GRAPE FEVER.

Ten years ago sage practitioners, who felt the public pulse, averred that in a year or two this disease would of itself die out. It was thought the experience of a few years would so open people's eyes that it would be hard, indeed, to get planters to invest in everything that was presented as new.

It is true that there is not so much of this grape fever as an abnormal condition as formerly, but the great principle of progress has given a depth of tone and width of range to the enquiry after varieties that avoid the defects of those now in cultivation, or, present desirable qualities not yet obtained.

This is the true course to be pursued.

The question has been often presented, and under various forms—How can the interests of the producer of a valuable variety be protected in his right to remuneration, and the public protected from imposition?

A review of notes made of new varieties of grapes has presented this point to our mind in a very forcible light, and we hope some attention will be given to it. We would like to hear the opinions of practical men on the subject.

In the introduction and dissemination of new varieties to the public, we hope that the great trouble of using numbers instead of names will be avoided in the future.

The confusion among the Rogers' Hybrids offers a good illustration. We are sorry to see some new seedlings, raised by Ellwanger & Barry, are being noticed by numbers and not by names.

Among those quite recently introduced but few have been tested here, either in growth or fruit.

Most of these varieties are held at very high prices, and it is just here that the difficulty comes in of planter and originator; and the guarantee that the purchaser gets value for his money, requires regulation.

Among the new varieties we see considerable value in the fruit of the Walter, by Mr. Caywood; the tenderness and consistency of the pulp we appreciate highly.

The Eumelan, by Dr. Grant, is described as an early black grape.

The Downing, by Dr. Perrine, is a light colored grape of the Iona type.

The Mount Lebanon, by George Curtis, of the Shakers, is described as a dark grape, a cross of Amber and Isabella.

The Weehawken, by Dr. Seidhoff, from seed of a Crimean grape. Una, by E. W. Bull, a new white seedling of the Concord.

The Aughwick—Nonantum—Monitor—are merely known as new high priced varieties.

Canada has also presented some claimants to public favor, in the Brant, Canada, Autuchon, Othello and Cornucopia.

We can say nothing from personal experience with many of these varieties, but the naming of them answers the query, what grapes have recently come out. The prices range from three to five dollars, and in these times men



look at their money before they will invest without some more value than is found in the grand conceptions and glowing illustrations of their originators.

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]  
**THE GRAPE QUESTION.**

Dr. Grant, and Caywood of the Walter grape, seem to be working themselves up to a very high pitch of feeling over their pet seedling grapes.

Grant read an address at Canandaigua, New York, also the same at Whitlock's Rooms, New York City. This address is to us simply an advertisement of his own seedlings—and in the West, would not be listened to one moment. And, if the good sense of the speaker did not dictate to him a far more different course than stooping to "blow his own horn" when delivering an address on "The Past, Present and Future of Grape Culture," we think some man, who is above such low, mean advertising tricks, should have interrupted the same—to have saved the infliction, upon our people, of this trashy—windy address.

But the Dr. has told some truths, and they relate entirely to the Walter grape, Adirondac and Diana Hamburg.

Mr. Caywood comes out in the *Journal of Horticulture*, and gives the Dr. and his "triumph," Iona, Israella and Eumelan, a square dressing down. He tells far more truths than the Dr. we think. For he gives other varieties of grapes than his own a name and a standing among the other good things of the day. But his great failing is for the Walter; it is a perfect wine and table grape—is the grape for the whole people—will dry right down into raisins—the brand "M. R.," "layer" will soon be seen no more in our market—but not until the proprietor will exhibit it a little more freely to be tested. Why don't they send it West for trial? We will wager the price of a 100 vines, that the Concord grown here in Missouri, is of superior quality to Iona, Israella, Eumelan or Walter.

Go in gentlemen—abuse one another's pets—we believe you are telling the truth—not of your own, but neighbors—pitch in—ventilate the whole brood of bastards, seedlings, wildlings and foundlings;—the people who buy vines, like to hear it—it is money in their pockets.

But, a word more—we are surprised to see respectable journals of the East, admit into their columns these articles of advertising, unless under the head of advertisements. If the people read both sides of these quarreling advertisements; a little of it is a benefit; but where only one side meets the eye, it may lead to loss of money and hope deferred.

Gentlemen grape-growers of the West, go slow with these Eastern grape excellencies;—better test one or two, than loose a thousand or two dollars—"soil and climate" have so much to do in developing a Black Hamburg, or a pure *Vitis Labrusca*; and then, the planets may have a tendency to form "educated taste" at the East, very superior to any at the West. The "wise men" came from the East—we await with much patience the development of your consummate skill and science; but God save us from your bran bread, Vineland and Seedling Grapes.

OZARK.

**The Proper Time to Cut Timber.**

In a former number of the *Rural World*, a Grape Grower makes inquiry for the best time to cut timber for posts. A great deal has been written on the subject, with conflicting opinions.

Some years ago the British Parliament appointed a committee to ascertain as far as practicable, the best time to fell timber for ship-building. The commission was composed of navy and scientific men; they made an elaborate report, that the winter was decidedly the proper time. I remember their principal objection to cutting timber in the summer was a fungus growth from summer-cut timber, causing a speedy decay. On the other hand, timber cut in the winter is much more subject to be worm eaten. A remedy against the ravages of worms is, to immerse the timber in water for a short time. In 1846 the writer covered his dwelling with blue ash shingles, from his own trees—cut and made in the summer from nice, thrifty, young trees. In sixteen years the house needed a new roof; whereas they should have lasted thirty or thirty-five years—having known blue ash roof to last thirty-five years. The probability is, if the timber had been cut in winter, the roof would have lasted thirty years.

Oak posts should never be put in the ground until seasoned, burned, or tarred. Sassafras posts are much used in this section. They will last from four to six years.

Post oak, in some of the States, is preferred to white oak for posts. In the Barrens of Kentucky, the farmers informed the writer that a young post oak would last as long as much of the cedar. Some farmers of experience and practical observation, think fence rails will last much longer if cut in summer; for the reason that the bark peels freely, and worms will not eat, or perforate a barked rail. All know that worm eaten rails soon decay. J. S.

Florrisant Valley, Mo.

**NEW WINE ENTERPRISE.**

E. A. Thompson, Esq., President Ohio Wine Growers' Association, has for some time, contemplated the opening of a house where American wines, particularly of his own production, should be sold at such prices as would place them in their purity within the reach of all classes, and at the same time offer inducements to all to use the good to the exclusion of the adulterated and poor which has been selling at much higher prices.

To carry out this design, he has opened a room in the basement of No. 76 West Third street, where he yesterday inaugurated the enterprise by inviting a large number of his friends, for whom he had provided a bountiful collation, embracing, in addition to the eatables, a full supply of his wines—Catawba, Ives' Seedling, Virginia Seedling, and American Claret, together with the Sparkling Catawba of Werk & Son.

At the close of the repast Mr. Thompson was called for, and briefly alluded to his plan. Assuming that the people would have some kind of stimulant, he said that all were interested in having the adulterated, injurious wines that were imported from Europe, made from the mere pumice of the grape, supplanted by the pure juice. To secure, to the extent of his ability, this end, he had fitted up his "American Wine House," where he proposed to keep for sale all his varieties, including also Mr. Werk's sparkling Catawba, at the low rate of 25 cents for pint, and 50 cents for quart bottles. This the custo-

mers could drink at the room or take with them to their homes.

This is a bold enterprise on the part of Mr. Thompson, but he backs it up with the product of sixty acres of vines, and, with the aid of Mr. Werk, thinks he will be able to "work" it through.—*Cincinnati Gazette*.

**Colman's Rural World,**  
A Weekly Agricultural and Horticultural Journal, of 16 Quarto pages, forming two volumes a year of 416 pages each, beginning with January and July.  
Two DOLLARS PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE.  
A FREE COPY for one year to any person sending a club of five new subscribers and Ten Dollars.  
See Premium List in Advertising Columns.

**EDITOR'S TABLE.**

**TAKE NOTICE!**

We send to every subscriber twenty-four seeds of the Improved Alton Nutmeg Melon, provided Stamped Envelopes are enclosed to us with the address of the party to whom they are to be sent, written upon them; and not otherwise.

We send the *RURAL WORLD* Free for one year to every person sending us the names of Five New Subscribers—not old ones.

**HEARTH AND HOME.**—The first number of this weekly agricultural paper has been received. It fully meets our high expectations, and will prove a great acquisition to our agricultural literature. With so able an Editor as Donald G. Mitchell, it will leap at once into the front rank of our American agricultural periodicals.

**COTSWOLD SHEEP.**—H. B. Vaughan, of Snobar, Mo., wants to know where he can get some Cotswold sheep on favorable terms.

**WANTED.**

A Practical Vineyardist, one that has had experience in pruning and training the Concord and other American varieties of grapes. To such a person—either married or single—who can come well recommended, I will give good wages. Vineyard situated on the I. M. R. R. within 30 miles of St. Louis. Norman J. Colman, St. Louis, Mo.

**KNOX'S SEEDS.**—We neglected to notice in our last issue that W. W. Knox, of Pittsburg, had succeeded his father, Rev. J. Knox, in the seed business in that city. Our Western friends will take notice of this.—They will find the son even more enterprising than the father, and in every way reliable, and worthy a large patronage.

**BOOK NOTICES.**

**THE HORSE AND HIS DISEASES.**—This is one of the most interesting treatises on the horse that we have yet seen. It is written in the popular style and is so simple every one can understand it. Its author is Robert Jennings, V. S., Philadelphia, Pa. It will be mailed to any address for \$1 75, by those popular booksellers, Frary, Cowan & Krath, successors to Keith & Woods, 219 North Fifth street, St. Louis, Mo.

**COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD.**—Colman's Rural World is an eight page weekly, published once a week, at St. Louis, Missouri, at two dollars a year. It is not only a number one Agricultural and Horticultural Journal, but keeps its readers posted in the latest news and markets, and has a pleasant Home Literary department.

The above is from the Page county Iowa, Democrat. We are thankful for the compliment, but Bro. Kridelbaugh, having charge of the Field and Garden Department of that paper, (which he edits ably,) will have to put on his "specs" and make another count of the pages. If he don't skip half of them he will make 16 instead of eight.



### THE UNWELCOME GUEST.

The lights are lit, the chimney glows,  
The board is laden with the best;  
And evergreens the high walls deck  
In expectation of a guest.  
The maiden wears a snow-white rose  
In shining braids of silken hair;  
The matron's face is lit with smiles  
To greet the guest expected there.

Along the turnpike's devious way,  
Across the swift and dangerous ford,  
The jaded steed his rider bears,  
Obedient to the lightest word;  
His iron hoofs upon the night  
Ring out a harsh, discordant tune,  
His streaming mane shakes in the wind,  
His wild eye wonders at the moon.

The hours go by, the clock ticks loud,  
The fire has lost its former glow;  
The wine still waits the stranger's lip,  
The flickering light burns dim and low;  
The matron's smile has passed away,  
The master nods within his chair,  
And faded is the snow-white flower  
The maiden wore to grace her hair.

A knock sounds at the castle gates,  
That to the summons open wide;  
And through the halls a stranger stalks,  
With lofty mien and haughty stride—  
Not the fair guest for whom they looked,  
For whom the maiden graced her hair,  
But one of other name and blood,  
A visitor unwelcome there.

The board is laden with the best,  
Yet has the wine a bitter taste;  
Untouched the costly meats are passed,  
The mellow fruit is left to waste;  
No smile is on the matron's lip,  
No love is in the maiden's eye;  
The master sits with sullen brow,  
In silence, as the hours go by.

Perchance we all have sometimes been  
Unwelcome guests beside some hearth,  
And shadowed by our presence there  
Each show of gladness and of mirth.  
The formal word, the chilling tone,  
The slight forced smile, what tales they tell!  
How happy seems the parting hour  
When at the last we say "Farewell!"

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

### LITTLE THINGS.

Is it necessary that I should run over the role—that atoms of dust make up the earth; drops of water the ocean; seconds, ages of time—to illustrate the fact, that little things make up the sum of human happiness or misery.

This being conceded—Is it right that the wife, for whom the husband has forsaken father and mother, should make the home he has furnished, so uninviting by little sins of omission or commission? Should the glossy curls—in which his heart was tangled long ago irretrievably—float out on the winds like the disheveled tresses of the ravaged corn fields? Should the limp and soiled wrapper flap around the limbs over which the dainty muslin once fell in such a misty charm? Shall the fair brow on which Truth and Purity once sat enthroned, be corrugated with frowns; and the rosy lip, from which once fell diamonds of wisdom and pearls

of truth, now only open to sting like the serpent, or croak like some bird of ill omen? Is it right that a cold and unswept hearth should repel the footsteps of the weary man? Is it right that ill-cooked, unsavory meals, should repress the cheerful flow of spirits that a dainty table and its surroundings prompt? Is it right, when a man comes home with heart aglow with love for his household, that, instead of gathering his children to his bosom, he must retreat from contact with the unkempt, uncombed, unwashed little barbarians, over whose dear little faces mirth and molasses hold divided supremacy?

All these are little things, but they make up the sum of domestic life.

Is it right when a girl has forsaken the home of her childhood, wherein the winds of heaven were not permitted to visit her too roughly; the fairy chamber with its snowy curtains, its glowing grate, its aroma of flowers, the gay promenade and festive hall, in which all turned to her as the sun to its God;—Is it right for him, for whom (Ruth-like) she forsook all, to forget to gather round her all the comforts his means or skill can command? He may not cover the walls with gilded paper, the floors with velvet carpets, the table with porcelain and silver—but he can himself pass the friendly brush over the stains and defacement of time; he can replace the broken hinge; renew the fallen paling; plant out the grateful shade tree, and train the vine to curtain the unsheltered window. He, too, can remember the failing meal and wasting cruise, and bring the fruits of the garden in their season that she may "take no care for the morrow." Can he not also remember the hour of small things—the leaving of traces of his muddy boots on the mat instead of the floor; the closing softly the doors behind him instead of deluging the house with cold air; the putting of cane, gloves, hat and daily paper, in the right place, instead of leaving it for the weary woman to do, when she has rocked the baby to sleep at last? Might he not sometimes rub up his own recollections of "Mother Goose" and "Red Riding Hood," and beguile the little one into forgetfulness of the mother while she takes just one turn in the fresh air? Aye! more—might he not forego that daily julep, or those two or three cigars per day, the price of which would so soon bring that patient, silent, untiring friend, a sewing machine, to the over-tasked woman's aid?

All these are little things—but, if done, they go largely to make up the sum of home happiness.

Is it right, that the sons and daughters of our valley should forget that their lives, too, are some of the little strands that make up the cord that binds together the family in silken bonds or galling fetters?

Is it right that the stalwart son, dawdles with slippered feet around his chamber fire, or conceitedly curls his moustache before the mirror, while his father begins his day's toil by leading forth the ox to water, or cleaving the sturdy oak? Is it right, when the college bell calls to recitation, that he should loiter on the green or linger in saloons, whose fragrant stews and

sparkling wines have never tempted the denying father from his efforts to secure for his son the privileges of education? Is it right that the boy should come home but to harass his sisters, badger the children, and take the best period his mother might have rested, in tidying up after him, and repairing the breaches he has made in home quiet and comforts? These are little acts in the boy's estimation, but they go far in marring the harmony of home life.

Is it right that the daughters of our household should fold their arms in morning slumbers, while the failing mother rises up betimes to air the parlors and burnish up the tea thing—if, perchance, she does not get the morning meal? Is it right they should gather roses from the merchant's drugs, that exercise in household duty would call so freshly and freely to the faces? Is it well that the smiles that so charm the stranger, the songs that so charms the loved one should never brighten and charm the family? It is not well!

Husbands, wives, sons and daughters of our valley—of our great land—the close of another year has come and gone. It is a time, meet for reflection, repentance and reformation. May the Recording Angel drop a tear over our own and every transgression against us; and, as the new year unrolls before us its fair, unwritten scroll, let us remember—It is little things which make up the sum of human happiness or misery. Let us beseech the Recording Angel to blot from the book of remembrance, our past offenses, and through the coming year endeavor to live our way and "sin no more."

MRS. M. T. DAVIES

Our eye alights, just now, upon the following touching little scrap, written by an English laborer, who had been killed by a falling beam:

"Sweet laughing child! the cottage door  
Stands free and open now;  
But, oh! its sunshine glids no more  
The gladness of thy brow!  
The merry step hath passed away,  
Thy laughing sport is hushed for aye.

Thy mother by the fireside sits  
And listens for thy call;  
And slowly, slowly, as she knits,  
Her quiet tears down fall;  
Her little hindering thing is gone,  
And undisturbed she may work on."

A farmer named Mackenzie, living near Mary's, Ont., was waylaid the other night by a man who jumped into his wagon and presented a pistol at his head. Mackenzie, eyeing the pistol with feigned curiosity, remarked, "Heavens! it a little higher; I've got one like that at home." The highwayman did hold it a little higher, when Mr. Mackenzie gave him a powerful blow in the ribs and drove off, leaving the rascal sprawling.

An English court has separated a boy of fifteen from his wife, and sent him into the country to learn a trade before he can be allowed to live with her. He had married his nurse.

A few Sundays ago, a banquet of 400 persons was given in honor of a fireman, who, at a dinner in Paris, on August 8, saved the lives of 100 persons at the imminent risk of his own life. A silver medal accompanied the honor.

It is said that Chicago possesses the largest bakery in the world. In the months of October and November eight thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight barrels of flour were converted into crackers in that establishment.



# THE OLD WORLD SPARROW.

BY WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT.

We hear the note of a stranger bird,  
That ne'er in our land till now was heard.  
A winged settler has taken his place  
With Teutons and men of the Celtic race;  
He has followed their path to our hemisphere—  
The Old World Sparrow at last is here.

He meets not here, as beyond the main,  
The fowler's snare and the poisoned grain,  
But snug built homes on the friendly tree;  
And crumbs for his chirping family  
Are strewn when the winter fields are drear,  
For the Old World Sparrow is welcome here.

The insect legions that sting our fruit,  
And strip the leaves from the growing shoot,  
A swarming, skulking, ravenous tribe,  
Which Harris and Flint so well describe  
But can not destroy, may quail with fear,  
For the Old World Sparrow, their bane, is here.

The apricot, in the summer ray,  
May ripen now on the loaded spray,  
And the nectarine, by the garden walk,  
Keep firm its hold on the parent stalk,  
And the plum its fragrant fruitage rear,  
For the Old World Sparrow, their friend, is here.

That pest of gardens, the little Turk,  
Who signs with his crescent his wicked work,  
And causes the half-grown fruit to fall,  
Shall be seized and swallowed, in spite of all  
His sly devices of cunning and fear,  
For the Old World Sparrow, his foe is here.

And the army worm and the Hessian fly  
And the dreaded canker-worm shall die,  
And the thrip and slug and fruit-moth seek,  
In vain, to escape that busy beak,  
And fairer harvests shall crown the year,  
For the Old World Sparrow at last is here.

[I hope I have not said too much for the sparrow.  
The multiplication of insects in this country within a  
few years past has occasioned the loss of many kinds  
of fruits, and the introduction of a bird which propa-  
gates in vast numbers and feeds on almost every kind  
of insect, is a remedy which promises more than any  
other that I know of. In Great Britain, the house  
sparrow—*fringilla domestica*—is by most farmers re-  
garded as a pest as mischievous as the most nox-  
iously vermin, and is pursued and destroyed as remorse-  
lessly by traps and poisons as rats and mice. Yet  
some naturalists hold that they do as much good by  
destroying weeds and insects, as harm by destroying  
crops and fruits. It is certain that the insect pests  
which make such havoc among our fruits, do compar-  
atively little mischief in Great Britain, probably, as it  
seems to me, because of the war carried on against  
them by the multitudes of sparrows.]—Hearth and  
Home.

In contrasting the Presidential votes of 1860  
and 1868, it appears that whereas the vote of  
Massachusetts and New Hampshire respectively  
has increased but 26,000 and 2,000, that for  
New York has increased 171,000, Pennsylvania  
182,000, Ohio 77,000, Illinois 110,000, and that  
of Michigan 68,000.

HORACE GREELEY purposes to write, during  
the year 1869, an elementary work on Political  
economy, wherein the policy of Protection to  
Home Industry will be explained and vindicated.  
This work will first be given to the public through  
successive issues of the *New York Tribune*, and  
will appear in all its editions—Daily, \$10; Semi-  
Weekly, \$4; Weekly \$2 per annum.

STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES.—When we  
invite membership to the State Horticultural  
Society of Missouri, we invite persons to send  
the fee—\$2—to J. H. Tice, Esq., Treasurer, at  
St. Louis.

Those desiring to become members of the  
Illinois State Horticultural Society, can do so,  
under the new regulations, by remitting one  
dollar to Jonathan Huggins, Esq., Woodburn,  
Macoupin Co., Ill., Treasurer, or to the Secre-  
tary, Hon. W. C. Flagg, Moro, Madison Co., Ill.

## A Woman in the Far West.

Mrs. Mary S. L. Burt, Fairview Farm, Clay  
county, Kansas: Perhaps, though I am only a  
woman, and can't even vote, you will not object  
to a letter from me, when I tell you I haven't  
the faintest idea that you will publish it: but,  
as you were the means, indirectly of course, of  
our coming out here, I should think it very  
natural for you to be willing to know how some  
of us homestead settlers are doing. My husband  
would write you a much better letter than I, but  
you know,

"He that by the plow would thrive,  
Himself must either hold or drive."

Now, he cannot hold and drive the plow (for,  
having no help, he does both), and write too,  
so upon me will fall the pleasant task of writing  
you. We came into the State the 12th day of  
March, having left Springfield, Mass., the 7th:  
had selected an 80-acre claim and got the frame  
up for one room, and got into it by the 7th of  
April. Since then things have of necessity  
moved slowly. We have, of course, raised no  
crop this year. As there is no herd-law in op-  
eration, and our neighbors have many cattle,  
we must this Winter build a wire fence, prepar-  
atory to hedging. This is a heavy expense to  
the new settler, but one of the unavoidable.

We have the frame up, and finished on the out-  
side, of a house containing six rooms, a good  
cellar, 17 by 38, a good cemented cistern, that  
will hold 100 barrels, the well to come by and-  
by; we have a warm stable, 18 by 18, stone sides,  
hay roof, and hay packed against the sides to  
keep the wind from whistling through the crev-  
ices, between the stones. If I thought you  
would stop to read it, I would tell you how I  
love the horses and colt, cow and calf, and soft,  
pretty chickens, and in the cold and unfinished  
condition of the house, that I sometimes think  
the pleasantest place is among the animals. I  
often wonder how I have been willing to live in  
a city so many years when there is so much  
pleasure and sweet content to be experienced in  
my simplest duties—everything is so new to me.  
I never made a pound of butter before. I think  
if I can see our house completed, a fence made  
round the 40 acres, some crops growing, I shall  
never wish to go off the place—shall be more  
proud than Albanians will be of their new cap-  
itol when they get it. There is not a foot of our  
80 acres where a plow cannot run unobstructed,  
yet within a short distance is a plenty of stone  
for building purposes. We have not a tree or  
shrub, or any water upon our place; but we  
hope that perseverance and a few years will  
remedy the one fault, and wells and cisterns  
must make up for the other. The climate here  
is very healthy, particularly for consumptives,  
more so than Florida or Minnesota, for we have  
that peculiar dryness of the atmosphere without  
the sultriness of the one or extreme cold of the  
other. The hottest day last Summer we had a  
pleasant breeze, making the heat endurable, nor  
did we have one such a hot, uncomfortable night  
as I remember to have sweat through at home,  
and after a good night's rest we are better pre-  
pared to endure the day's heat; but the breeze  
in Summer becomes almost a gale in Winter,  
and this cold, piercing wind is the unpleasant  
feature of a Kansas Winter. We who came in-  
to the county this year, came in an unfavorable  
time. The drouth in this part of the State at  
least has destroyed the corn crop and heavily  
injured the potatoes. Old settlers tell us they  
have seen nothing like it since '61. This and  
the late sad and terrible atrocities of the Indians  
have driven back many of our number—many  
yet remain. It seems to me that if the Good  
Father gives us six years of plenty between two  
of famine in a country so new, whose resources  
are yet almost untold, we can afford to "hold  
on." Among those with whom we have come  
in contact, we have found generous spirits who  
have given us encouragement and assistance in  
health and sickness. God bless them, say we,

from a full heart. Will you please send us,  
whenever you please, and when you have them  
for distribution, what seeds of grain or plant or  
forest tree you can, for we need and shall appre-  
ciate them, and thank the donors. MARY S. L.  
BURT, Republican Box, Junction City, Kansas.  
—American Institute Farmers' Club.

## Self-Government.

There is little gained and much lost by losing  
one's temper. Anger unbalances us, and makes  
us the prey or the sport of the less irritable. We  
say and do things under the influence of anger  
which we afterwards regret. Anger lessens our  
power and lowers our dignity. When the sacred  
writer says, "He that governeth himself is fit  
to sit with the king," he means the government  
of temper. The power to quell our raising  
passion, to say to the provoked spirit, "Peace,  
be still!" this is a mighty and noble power.  
This brings man sovereignly to the judgment-  
seat of his highest reason and conscience.

The Proverbs have it, that "a soft answer  
turneth away wrath"—that "a contentious  
woman destroyeth the peace of a household." A  
Christian temper—peaceful, charitable, kind-  
ly, considerate and forgiving—what else can  
give so great a charm to character, or such lustre  
to the soul? The atmosphere of such a temper  
is fruitful of blessedness. There all is sunshine  
and blossom of spirit. There are no social  
frosts, nor clouds, nor storms. Childhood is  
softened by its example, and old age under its  
influence reveals the freshness and mellowness  
of youth.

Oh, that the Angel of Peace might visit every  
home of man, and sweeten the contentious  
tempers that make so much daily life a weary-  
ing, withering curse.

TAKING IT COOLLY.—Old Squire Hopkins was  
a perfect picture of meekness and simplicity,  
and his stuttering seemed the effect of bashful-  
ness rather than an inherent physical defect.  
One day a neighbor came to buy a yoke of oxen  
of him. The price was named, and the animals  
made a satisfactory appearance.

"Are they breachy?" asked the buyer.

"N-n-never t-t-troubled me," was the reply.

The other paid the price and took the yoke.  
In a day or two he came back in a towering  
passion.

"Confound these critters, 'Squire—there ain't  
no fence that will keep 'em! They will break  
through a stone wall, or jump over the moon.  
What the dickens made you tell me they wasn't  
breachy?"

"I-I didn't say n-n-no such thing."

"Yes you did; you said they never troubled  
you."

"Oh, well, neighbor," said the 'Squire, "I  
d-don't let such a thing as that e'er t-t-trouble  
me."

The buyer sloped.

LADIES SHOULD READ NEWSPAPERS.—It is a  
great mistake in female education to keep a  
young lady's time and attention devoted to only  
fashionable literature of the day. If you would  
qualify her for conversation, you must give her  
something to talk about—give her education  
with the actual world, with the outer world,  
and its transpiring events. Urge her to read  
newspapers, and become familiar with the pres-  
ent character and improvement of our race.—  
History is of some importance; but the past  
world is dead, we have nothing to do with it.  
Our thoughts and our concerns should be for the  
present world; to know what it is, and improve  
the condition of it. Let her have an intelligent  
opinion, and be able to sustain intelligent con-  
versation concerning the mental, moral and  
religious improvements of our times. Let the  
gilded annuals and poems on the center-table  
be kept part of the time covered with weekly  
and daily journals. Let the whole family, men,  
women and children, read newspapers.

### Excitement and Short Life.

The following, by an unknown writer, accords with our observation:

The deadliest foe to a man's longevity is an unnatural and unreasonable excitement. Every man is born with a certain stock of vitality, which can not be increased, but which may be husbanded or expended rapidly, as he deems best. Within certain limits he has his choice, to live fast or slow, to live abstemiously or intensely, to draw his little amount of life over a large space, or condense it into a narrow one; but when his stock is exhausted he has no more. He who lives abstemiously, who avoids all stimulants, takes light exercise, never overtaxes himself, indulges no exhausting passions, feeds his mind and heart on no exciting material, has no debilitating pleasures, lets nothing ruffle his temper, keeps his "accounts with God and man duly squared up," is sure, barring accidents, to spin out his life to the longest limit which it is possible to attain; while he who lives intensely, who feeds on high seasoned food, whether material or mental, fatigues his body or brain by hard labor, exposes himself to inflammatory disease, seeks continual excitement, gives loose reign to his passion, frets at every trouble, and enjoys little repose, is burning the candle at both ends, and is sure to shorten his days:

"PLAIN SHIRTS" AND PLANCHETTE.—A gentleman residing in a suburban town, called to his door, the other evening, by an energetic pull of the bell, found the Irish servant of a neighbor, who delivered herself as follows:

"If ye please, Mr. Cooker, master wud like the loan of your plain shirt."

"My plain shirt!" said the puzzled Cooker, "what the deuce does he want a shirt for?"

"Faith, I do know, surr," said the domestic, "only I heard the missus say she thought she could make the plain shirt move if she put her hands on it."

"What!" screamed Mrs. Cooker, who had been listening to the conversation through the crack of the parlor door, "put her hands on your plain shirt? I would like to see her about it; the buzzy!"

Cooker grinned, and then exploded in a shout of laughter. As soon as he could recover, he turned to his excited spouse, and said:

"Don't get excited, my dear, but hand Biddy the Planchette from the parlor; I think that is what she wants."

"Yes, sur," said Biddy, "the bit of board and the pencil, wid the divil in 'em;" which proved to be the case.

THE OLD MAN.—Bow low the head—do reverence to the old man, once like you. The vicissitudes of life have silvered his hair and changed the round, merry face to the worn visage before you. Once the heart beat with aspiration, crushed by disappointment, as yours, perhaps, is destined be. Once that form stalked promptly through the gay scenes of pleasure, the beau ideal of grace; now the hand of time, that withers the flowers of yesterday, has bent that figure and destroyed that noble carriage. Once at your age, he possessed the thousand thoughts that pass through your brain, now wishing to accomplish deeds equal to a nook in fame; anon imagining life a dream that the sooner he awoke from it the better. But he has lived the dream very near through; the time to awaken is very near at hand; his eye never kindles at old deeds of daring, and the hand takes a firmer grasp of the staff. Bow low the head, boy, as you would in your old age be revered.

A correspondent of a cotemporary says that the owners of three adjoining farms raised turkeys the past season. The first had over a hundred. They were heard to be in trouble, and on going to the rescue a fox was seen at work and driven away, but not till he had killed fifty-three of the young turkeys. He then went directly to the flock of the next neighbor and

killed nine before he was discovered and driven away, and before night he found the flock of the third neighbor and killed eighteen, one of them an old turkey. Making eighty in all killed in one day by a single fox that escaped unharmed.

### LIFE LENGTHENED.

1. Cultivate an equal temper; many a man has fallen dead in a fit of passion.

2. Eat regularly, not over thrice a day, and nothing between meals.

3. Go to bed at regular hours. Get up as soon as you wake of yourself, and do not sleep in the day time, at least not longer than ten minutes before noon.

4. Work always by the day, and not by the job.

5. Stop working before you are "fagged out."

6. Cultivate a generous and an accomodating temper.

7. Never eat when you are not hungry, nor drink when you are not thirsty.

8. Never cross a bridge before you come to it, for this will save half the trouble of life.

9. Let your appetite always come uninvited.

10. Cool off in a place greatly warmer than the one in which you have been exercising; this simple rule would prevent incalculable sickness and save millions of lives a year.

11. Never resist a call of nature for a single minute.

12. Never allow yourself to be chilled "through and through;" it is this which destroys so many every year, in a few days' sickness, from pneumonia, called by some lung fever, or inflammation of the lungs.

13. Whoever drinks no liquids at his meals will add years of pleasurable existence to his life. Of cold or warm drinks, the former are most pernicious; drinking at meals induces persons to eat more than they otherwise would, as any one can verify by experiment; and it is excess of eating which devastates the land with sickness, suffering and death.

14. After fifty years of age, if not a day laborer, and sedentary persons after forty, should eat but twice a day—in the morning and about four in the afternoon; persons can soon accustom themselves to seven hours interval between eating, thus giving the stomach rest; for every organ without adequate rest must give out prematurely.

15. Begin early to live under the benign influences of the Christian religion, for it "has the promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come."—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

### TO THE AUTUMN FLOWERS.

BY ALICE CARY.

Tread lightly, little bird, tread lighter yet—  
Mist-like across the grass, ye ivies creep,  
And in your time, O violets, softly set

Your blossoms on their stems, and softly weep  
The rainy tears ye cannot all repress—  
She walks among ye yet, though shadowless.

And by her death, and lovely living days,  
And by her slumber in among ye now,  
I charge ye that ye imitate her ways;

Unto the will of heaven submissive bow,  
And give your charities of sweetness forth,  
To bless some little sunless place of earth.

She loved ye well, and all her morns and eves  
For your sweet company her house forsook;  
The lowest whisper of the trembling leaves,  
The wildest prattle of the woodland brook

She could interpret by that sense divine,  
That understands whatever things are fine.

Often the rose would keep her summer state  
Despite the frost that did her cruel wrong,  
And like a sister at the valley gate

Wait to salute her as she passed along;  
Often the meadow clover lightly bent  
Her slender neck to see the way she went.

But she has left ye now, ye wildlings sweet,  
For sweeter company than ye could be;  
The quiet music of her quiet feet

Has dropt to silence, and her family  
Of flowery folk must gather round her place  
Of sleep, and turn their faces to her face.

[New York Ledger.

### ADDRESS TO THE "RURAL."

MR. RURAL:—We wish you a "happy new year." We hope your subscription and your contributors will increase, and that your own ability may keep pace in an accelerated ratio. You have become a necessity in our household; and we would as soon think of doing without shoes and stockings, as without you. We hope you will become more interesting every week, and that you will grow in size and usefulness until you surpass all others of your "kith and kin."

We are happy to see you in the front rank of progress and improvement, and hope that your labors to advance the farmers' profession may meet with success. It is a noble calling, and we feel glad that at last we find ourselves in its ranks. As for ourselves, we intend to do what we can to keep the car of progress in motion. We shall occasionally let you know what we think about, and what we do—and if it should prove an incentive to others to think more and do better, we shall rejoice and be happy. In conclusion, Mr. Rural, we bid you God-speed on your errand of usefulness, and may you become a regular and welcome visitor in every household throughout this mighty land. K. W. G.  
Snow Hill, Mo., Dec. 28th. 1868

Goody's Lady's Book and Colman's Rural World.

We will send the RURAL WORLD and GOODY'S LADY'S BOOK, for 1869, to any address, for \$4.50.

Or, Peterson's Magazine & Colman's Rural World.

To any address, for three dollars and fifty cents.

Or Colman's Rural World and the American Entomologist, for one year, for \$2.50.

### DOMESTIC DEPARTMENT

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

BUNIONS are very disagreeable companions, and I hereby send you an infallible cure for the same. Elixer of vitriol, applied three or four nights, going to bed, will do the work without pain or inconvenience whatever. Three or four folds of cotton cloth, wet with the vitriol and bound on the bunion will be sufficient.

SIR A. COOPER'S CHILBLAIN LINIMENT.—One ounce of camphorated spirit of wine, half an ounce of liquid sub-acetate of lead; mix, and apply in the usual way three or four times a day. Some persons use vinegar as a preventive, its efficacy might be increased by the addition of the vinegar of one-fourth of its quantity of camphorated spirit.

HAMS.—After hams have been smoked take them down, and thoroughly rub the fleshy part with molasses, then immediately apply ground pepper, by sprinkling on as much as will stick to the molasses, when they must be hung again to dry. Hams treated in this manner will keep perfectly sweet for two or three years. This must be done before the fly deposits its eggs for after that is done, nothing will stop its ravages. The above has been practiced in our section for twenty years. No soaking is necessary. One pint of molasses and one and a half or two pounds of black pepper are sufficient for an ordinary family.

TO PREVENT PUMPS FROM FREEZING.—A cheap and effective way of preventing pumps from freezing in winter is, to take flax tow or rye straw, twist into ropes, two or three inches in diameter, and wrapping around the pump, commencing at the bottom and pressing it down tightly until it reaches the top. By so doing, they can be kept from freezing in the coldest weather. The part of the rope may be made about fifteen long.—*Ex.*



# PREMIUMS FOR CLUBS.

Club Agents Wanted In Every Neighborhood in the West and South-West.  
**EVERY RESPONSIBLE FARMER CAN ACT AS CLUB AGENT.**

## COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD, AND VALLEY FARMER

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This well-known Agricultural Journal is issued  
Every Week at \$2 per year in Advance.

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#### GRAPE VINES FREE.

To any person sending 4 names and \$8, I will send by mail, carefully packed in moss, 6 well-rooted Concord Grape Vines, or 6 Clinton, or 4 Hartford Prolific, or 4 Taylor's Bullitt (white), or 1 of each of them.

#### SMALL FRUITS FREE.

To any person sending 4 names and \$8, I will send 1 dozen St. Louis Red Raspberry, or 1 doz. Doolittle's Improved Black Cap Raspberry, or 1 dozen large Red Dutch Currants, or 1 dozen Houghton Seedling Gooseberries, or half a dozen of the celebrated Philadelphia Raspberry, or 1 doz. each of the Agriculturist, French's New Seedling and Russell's Seedling Strawberries. For double the number of names, double the amount of Premiums, and so on.

#### AN ORCHARD FREE.

For 20 subscribers at \$2 each, I will give, nicely packed and delivered at any Express Office or R. R. Station in St. Louis, 50 Choice Apple Trees, assorted varieties, or 50 Choice Peach Trees, or 25 Apple and 25 Peach Trees.

For 40 subscribers at \$2 each, I will give double the number of the above trees.

#### SEWING AND KNITTING MACHINES, AND OTHER PREMIUMS, FREE.

A Wheeler & Wilson's Family Sewing Machine, worth Seventy-five dollars, for a club of Sixty. Or, A Wilcox & Gibb's Family Sewing Machine, worth Seventy-five dollars, for a club of Sixty.

A Lamb Knitting Machine, worth Sixty dollars, for a club of Sixty.

A Roper Four-Shooting Shot Gun, with necessary accoutrements, worth Sixty dollars, for a club of Fifty.

A Wilcox & Gibb's Family Sewing Machine, worth Fifty Eight dollars, for a club of Fifty.

An Aneroid Barometer worth Sixteen dollars, for a club of Twenty-Five.

A Mercurial Barometer, worth Fifteen dollars, for a club of Twenty-Five.

One of Geisler's Acidimeter's to test the Acid in the Must of Wines, worth Eight dollars, for a club of Fifteen. Or, if preferred, one of Loudon's Universal Hay Pitchers, a No. 1 Carrier, Horizontal Pulley and Stop, worth \$8.

One of Page's Patent Portable Pump and Sprinklers, for a club of Ten.

A Webster's National Pictorial Dictionary, being a combined edition of the Great Universal Abridged, containing 1,040 pages and 800 Engravings, and costing Six dollars, for a club of Ten.

A Saccharometer, an instrument to test the Sweetness of the Must of Wines, worth \$3.50, for a club of Eight.

N. B.—The Premiums of Grape Vines, Small Fruits and Fruit Trees, will be given, if preferred by club agents.

Names to form clubs may be sent in at different times and from different Post Offices.

Active, zealous go-ahead agents wanted to canvass every School District in the Mississippi Valley, for subscribers.

Farmers, Teachers, Preachers, Doctors, Lawyers, old men and young men, and Ladies, are all invited to form clubs for this paper.

Address, **NORMAN J. COLMAN,**  
Editor and Proprietor, St. Louis, Mo.

THE SADDEST FUNERAL.—There is no funeral so sad to follow as the funeral of our own youth, which we have been pampering with fond desires, ambitious hopes, and all the bright berries that hang in poisonous clusters over the path of life.

**BOUND VOLUMES FOR 1866 & 1867.**  
Bound Volumes of the *Rural World* for 1866 and 1867, for sale at this office. Price, \$3 00 each.

**A SUCCESS. The INK Powder--Best Extant**—Will instantly make Superior Black Writing Ink, to add rain water. Satisfaction given. Enough powder sent by mail, post-paid, to make two quarts for only 25 cents. Agents wanted. Address J. M. LITTLETON, Ipava, Illinois.

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Vol. IV. of Victor's History (Civil, Political and Military,) of the Southern Rebellion, is now Ready.

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**AGENTS, TAKE NOTICE!** This great work being complete will now command a large circulation. Good Canvassers, male or female, can readily realize \$10 per day in taking names for it. Very liberal commissions allowed and exclusive territory given. For Circular of particulars address as above.  
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jan9

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#### APPLE TREES.

	Each.	Hund.
2 and 3 years old, 5 to 7 feet high,	25c	\$20
1st selection,	20	15
2 years old, 4 to 5 feet, 2d size,	20	30
Siberian Crab, Red and Yellow varieties, 40		
Leading kinds grown: Early Harvest, Red June, Red Astrachan, Sweet June, Sweet Bough, Summer Queen, Summer Pearmain, Benoni, Keswick Codlin, Maiden's Blush, Rambo, Pennsylvania Red Strain, Fall Queen, Fall Pippin, Colvert, Fulton, Strawberry, Yellow Belleflower, Rawles' Janet, Winesap, Rome Beauty, Ben Davis, White Pippin, White Winter Pearmain, Missouri Keeper, Huntsman's Favorite, Large and Small Romanite, Northern Spy, Golden Russett, Tulpashocking, Domine, Willow Twig, Pryor's Red, Smith's Cider, Tallman's Sweet, Minkler, Baldwin, Wagner, Tompkins Co. King, Milan.		

#### PEAR TREES—The best varieties.

	Each.	Hund.
Standard, 2 and 3 years old, 5 to 6 feet, 75c		\$50
medium size, 3 to 5 feet,	50	40
Dwarf, 2 and 3 years, 1st selection,	50	40
2d size,	40	30

#### PEACH TREES.

1 year from bud, fine trees, 25c each; \$20 per hund.  
2 " " 40c each.

Varieties consist of—Hale's Early, Troth's Early, Haines' Early, Crawford's Early and Late, Early Cling, Serrate & large Early York, Cooledge's Favorite George the Fourth, Yellow Alborge, Red and Yellow Raroripe, Old Mixon Free and Cling, Stump the World, Red Cheek Melacaton, Newington Cling, Washington Cling, Late Admirable, Columbia, President, Smock, Heath Cling and Free.

Also a few trees of Wright's MAMMOTH HEATH Cling, \$1 each; and a very few trees of the following at 50c each—Harker's Seedling, Moore's Favorite, Busky Hill, Beer's Smock, Beer's Late Melacaton, Mountain Rose, Reeves' Favorite and Van Buren's Golden Dwarf.

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2 years old, 5 to 7 feet, extra fine; 75c each, \$50 hund. 1 and 2 years, 2d size, 50c each; \$40 per hundred.

Early Richmond or May, Donna Maria, Plum Stone, Morello, Shannon, May Duke, Late Duke, Carnation, Reine Hortense, Belle Magnifique, Black Tartarian, Gov. Wood, Early Purple, Yellow Spanish; also, a few trees of the "Barbour May," from Kentucky, from whence it comes with the highest reputation as a hardy and excellent sweet cherry. \$1 each.

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2 years old, 1st selection, fine, 75c each.  
1 and 2 years old, 2d selection, fine, 50c each.  
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" Bearing Vines, 50c each,	4 00	20 00
Hartford Prolific, 1 year, 30c each,	3 00	15 00
" 2 " 50c "	4 00	
Delaware, 2 years, 50c each,	4 00	
Norton's Virginia, 1 year, 40c each,	3 50	20 00
" 2 years, 50c each,	4 00	
Ives' Seedling, 2 years, 50c each,	4 00	
Iona, 1 year, 50c each,	5 00	
Israelia, 1 year, 50c each,	5 00	
Croveling, 1 year, 50c each,	5 00	
Clinton, 2 years, 25c each,	2 00	6 00
Taylor's Bullitt, 2 years, 25c each,	2 00	6 00
GOOSEBERRIES.		
Houghton Seedling, 1 year, \$1 50 per doz;	\$5	hund.
" 2 year, \$2 per doz.		





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Irritation of the Lungs, a permanent Throat Affection, or an Incurable Lung Disease IS OFTEN THE RESULT.

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Having a direct influence to the parts, give immediate relief.

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SEND for Catalogue of the herd. Farm and residence adjoining Harristown (Toledo, Wabash and Western R. R.), Macon county, Illinois. May 23-ly. J. H. PICKRELL.

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Harrison, \$2 per Bushel; Early York, \$1 50; also 6000 Evergreens, All Sizes.

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All the leading hardy Western Varieties. Send for Sample and List; will be sold very low. Apple Seed for sale—warranted fresh. Dr. JNO. E. ENNIS & CO. Jan 2-3m] Great Western Nursery, Lyons, Iowa.

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**Illustrated Floral Guide and Catalogue of SEEDS and PLANTS,** is now published, containing descriptions of over 1,600 varieties of Flower Seeds and Plants. It is splendidly illustrated with about thirty elegant wood engravings and two beautiful colored plates; one of which will be the celebrated

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Sept 26] ST. LOUIS, MO.

## NEWS.

**ST. LOUIS**—New Year's day was celebrated in this city in a very quiet manner. Calls were made and received, but not in number corresponding with former seasons. The day was cloudy, warm, and threatening rain, and the streets in a semi-fluid condition. An old resident tells us that it was the warmest and most disagreeable new year's day St. Louis has seen for twenty-nine years.

**ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Jan. 2d.**—The river is still open, with no immediate prospect of its closing.

**RANDOLPH COUNTY, ILL.**—Red Bud, January 2, 1869. In consequence of the protracted wet weather and unhealthy state of the atmosphere, much sickness prevails in this place and adjacent country, more particularly among children.

On Monday, the 21st ultimo, an election was held in the city of Sparta, this county, on the proposition to subscribe \$75,000 to the stock of the Cairo and East St. Louis Railroad Company, which resulted in a vote of one hundred and forty for the subscription to eight against.

**Mr. C. C. Perkins**, of Boston, the well known writer on art, has been elected a member of the Institute of France—the first American so honored.

**ALBANY, New York, Jan. 1st 1869.**—Gov. Hoffman was escorted to Albany by the Ninth Brigade National Guards, and received from Gov. Fenton the insignia of office. Gov. Fenton addressed the Governor elect in a cordial and congratulatory manner. Gov. Hoffman replied in an equally happy speech.

**LONDON, Jan. 2.**—The Steamship Rhine from New York, when entering the Weser, grounded on the ordinary and sprung a leak. She will have to go into the dock for repairs.

**AUBURN, N. Y., January 3.**—A serious accident occurred at the Skating Rink in this city last evening, by the falling in of the roof of the building by the weight of snow upon it. At the time, there were about 30 persons on the ice. Four children were seriously injured; one, a son of Col. Dodge, fatally. He died last night. The others had limbs broken, but with the exception of a daughter of Mr. J. W. Haight, are not considered in a dangerous condition.

**BUFFALO, January 3.**—The new suspension bridge at Niagara Falls was thrown open to the public yesterday noon. The Falls House carriage, containing Hallis White, Vice President of the Bridge Company, Samuel Keefe, engineer, V. W. Smith, Superintendent, and Wm. Poole, editor of the Niagara Falls Gazette, passed over, followed by crowds of people. The bridge has the largest span on the continent.

**CINCINNATI, January 3.**—The first religious meeting, exclusively for printers and the newspaper fraternity generally, was held at the National Theatre this afternoon. Richard Smith, of the Gazette, presided. Addresses were made by several of the fraternity. Another meeting will be held on Sunday next.

**NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 2.**—The steamboat A. G. Brown collided with the Bremen steamship Teutonia, between this city and the mouth of the Mississippi on Wednesday, and soon turned bottom up. The books, money, and everybody on board saved. The Teutonia was uninjured, and passed on.

**SAN FRANCISCO, January 2.**—The mortality in the city in December, was five hundred and one, of which one hundred and forty-eight were from small pox.

San Francisco port statistics for 1868 show that five hundred vessels were dispatched to Atlantic and foreign ports, with cargoes aggregating in value twenty-three million dollars. Several hundred vessels have been engaged in the coasting trade not included in the above.

The exports of wheat since July 1, reached 150,000 tons and 240,000 barrels flour. Reducing the flour to wheat, the total exports were one hundred and eighty-four thousand tons. It is estimated there is still on hand for export, one hundred and eighty thousand tons of wheat. Including that from Oregon, which will reach this market, it makes a total of two hundred and sixty thousand tons.

The exports of coin and bullion for the year, were \$36,400,000.

**LONDON, January 2.**—Evening.—At a meeting of the working-men held at Lambeth to-night, presided over by Rev. Newman Hall, an address was presented to Reverdy Johnson, the American Minister. Mr. Johnson made a speech, in which he said the continuance of good feeling between Great Britain and the United States, was sure to be demanded by the people of both countries. His remarks were received with enthusiasm.

The Times to-day, in a leading editorial, denounces the project of the Liberals for the abolition of primogeniture, and says that England is essentially aristocratic and conservative.

## THE WEATHER

FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 1ST.

The past week has been dull, dirty and dreary, in the extreme. Instead of the bright, exhilarating frost, we have had dull, sluggish, rainy weather.

The snow that began on the evening of the 26th, covered the ground to a depth of about four inches. On the 27th, the thermometer marked both the maximum and minimum: since that the range has been quite limited. Early in the morning of the 31st, it began to rain, continuing all day, with a fine, misting rain during the night and most of the first day of the year. The indications are continued wet, the wind being quite variable.

Mean of the week, 35° 18.

Maximum on 27th at 2 P. M., 47°.

Minimum on 27th at 7 A. M., 15°.

Range, 32°.

## ST. LOUIS GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE RURAL WORLD AND VALLEY FARMER,  
January 5, 1869.

The week opened with most beautiful weather, and nothing could be more desirable than the sunshine at the present writing. The river is still open and there is no immediate danger of its closing. The commerce of Chicago is to-day ice-bound, as far as navigation is concerned, while St. Louis will send out a fleet of boats loaded with flour, corn, &c., to-day. The receipts of produce are of course light, but fair for the season. Cattle are in light receipt and the market rates, at retail, are considerable higher. Hogs, as we predicted, are steadily rising in price, and we fear no great decline before the close of the packing season, because not only here, but in Cincinnati and at other points, the receipts are also light. We strongly suspect that our opinion will find confirmation in fact, viz: "the hogs are not in the country," at least not heavy fat ones. Those of our farmers who have a good lot of shoats, which they can hurry up by extra feeding, and throw on to the market in early spring, should do so, as it will, in the end, save corn, and hence, money. Barley is still high and in brisk demand. We quote:

**FLOUR**—XXX, \$8 50; choice, \$10; family, \$10 75 @ 11.

**RYE FLOUR**—Market, for city, quiet, \$7 25 @ 7 50.

**BUCKWHEAT FLOUR**—\$9 75 @ \$10.

**CORNMEAL**—Kila-dried, \$3 50; country, no sale.

**WHEAT**—Spring, held firm; choice, \$1 35 @ 1 40; thin white winter, \$1 65; strictly prime do, \$1 75 @ 1 80; ordinary choice to very choice, \$2 @ 2 10.

**CORN**—Higher, but quiet. Mixed, 61 @ 63c; yellow, 63 @ 65c; white, No. 1, 64 @ 68c; some sold as high as 70c.

**OATS**—Small lots, on market, sold at higher rates, and strictly choice are in demand; range of market from 51 @ 58c.

**RYE**—Firm. Good to prime, \$1 22 @ 1 25.

**BARLEY**—Winter, in brisk demand; fancy, brings extra prices, say \$2 65 @ 2 67½; prime, \$2 55; fair, \$2 35; choice Minnesota, \$2 15.

**HAY**—Active and firm. Sales: Loose—12 bales at \$18 00; 39 choice at \$22. Tight—1 car ordinary prime at \$18 00; 2 do, at \$18 50; 3 do, at \$19; 2 strictly do, at \$20; 1 choice at \$20 50—all delivered; 75 bales choice at \$20.

**HEMP**—Sales 45 bales dressed at \$240.

**TOBACCO**—Market nominal. Two bxs inferior new were put up and sold at \$3 70 @ 3 90; Unsound and common lugs \$4 50 @ 7; sound lugs \$7 @ 9; factory dried leaf nominal, \$9 @ 11; light colored do, \$11 @ 13; bright fillers \$10 @ 13; black wrappers, nominal \$14 @ 18; medium to choice, bright leaf \$15 @ 40.

**PROVISIONS**—The high prices asked checked business, and the feeling was somewhat excited. Mess pork sold early, to the extent of 350 barrels, at \$28—held at the close at \$28 50. Dry salt meats higher; sales 10 cks clear sides at 15½; shoulders held at 11½ @ 11½ in lots, packed; 900 lbs loose—shoulders 10½c. Hams 13½, clear sides 14½c. Bacon firm—no shoulders out of smoke: sales 10 cks clear sides at 17½; 10 lbs sugar-cured hams at 17½; 5 do at 17½ @ 18.

**LARD**—Higher. Manufacturing at 16c; prime and choice city now held at 17½ @ 18c in tierces, and 18½ @ 19c in kegs.

**TALLOW**—In demand; market firm; little offering, prime at 11½ @ 11½ @ 1b.

**HOGS**—Receipts as posted on 'Change, for 48 hours, 2,013 head. Market higher. Sales \$3 100 lbs gross averaging 190 lbs at \$9 50; 100 do, 225 lbs at \$9 40; 450 fair to good at \$9 50 @ 10; 100 averaging 210 lbs at \$10; 179 do, 230 and 241 lbs at \$10 @ 10 12½. We now quote good to choice at \$10 @ 10 50, and in demand.

**DRESSED HOGS**—Higher; few offering. Sales 11 head, averaging 167 lbs, at \$11 12½ @ 100 lbs net.

**DRIED FRUIT**—Scarce, stiff and active. Sales: Apples—strictly prime at \$2 75; choice at \$2 85. Peaches—mixed at \$4; 8 pkgs common to fair halves at \$4 50 @ 4 60 @ 4 75.

**VEGETABLES**—No demand. Nominal, at 70 @ 85 @ bus for potatoes, and \$1 25 @ 2 50 for onions, good onions at \$4 25 @ 5 bbl. For seed, pinkeye potatoes \$4, and 50 on p. t.

**PEAS**—Sales 3 sacks yellow at \$1 70 @ bushel. We quote green dull, and nominal at \$2 50 @ 2 75.

**APPLES**—Common to choice, per bbl, \$4 50 @ \$7.

**BUTTER**—Common Western, per lb, 25 @ 27c; medium grades, 28 @ 33c; prime grades, 34 @ 36c; choice to extra tub, 38 @ 41c; common to choice roll, 30 @ 35c.

**EGGS**—Fresh, shippers' count, per doz, 30 @ 32c; do recounted, 31 @ 32c; preserved nominal at 25 @ 27c.

**HIDES**—Western dry flint, per lb, 22 @ 22½; good to choice Southern do, 21½ @ 22c; common do, 21c; dry salt, 18 @ 19c; green do, 11 @ 11½c.

**WOOL**—Tub-washed, 49 @ 51c; do and picked, 51 @ 53c; fleece-washed, 33 @ 41c; unwashed, 25 @ 29c.

**BROOM CORN**—Sales 7 bales good at \$175; prime to choice worth \$200 @ 250.

**APPLES**—Sale 20 bbls New York at \$6 @ 6 50.

**GAME**—Offerings and demand, each light. We quote: Prairie chickens, \$3 50 @ 4; quail, \$1 50; rabbit, \$1 25; venison, 5 @ 8c gross; saddles do, 9 @ 12c; turkeys, (each), 75c @ \$1 25.

**POULTRY**—Chickens in light supply and good demand, at \$3 @ 3 50; turkeys dull, at 12 @ 14c.

## St. Louis Live Stock Market.

The arrivals of beef cattle are very light, and market rates for butchers' meat are higher. We noticed one lot of steers yesterday, which were much the best we have seen for a long time: large, heavy and fat. But all such stock is generally shipped, and St. Louis is fed on second-rate beef, most of which is bought and sold at so much per head.

Supplies of hogs continue very moderate, and the inquiry decidedly active, with strong advancing tendencies.

Sheep are received in sufficient quantities for butcher's demands.

The highest price paid for No. 1 shipping cattle is \$7 @ 7 50; fine butchers' stock, \$6 @ 6 25; prime, \$5 @ 5 12½; common, \$4 @ 4 25—lower grades at a much per head.

**HOGS**—Live, No. 1 fat, weighing 250 lbs. and over, \$10; hogs weighing 200 lbs. and over, \$9 50 @ 9 80.

**SHEEP**—Good to No. 1, \$2 25 @ \$4.

## Chicago Market.

**CHICAGO, January 4.**—Eastern Exchange—Firm; ½ off buying. Flour—Dull and easier; sale of spring extras at \$5 @ 6 50. Wheat—In fairly active demand, and 1 cent higher, demand principally for No. 2. No. 1, \$1 25 @ 1 26, No. 1 \$1 16½ @ 1 17, closing firm at \$1 16½ @ 1 16½. Sales since Change at \$1 17. Corn—Quiet, and 2 @ 4 higher. Sales at 62c for old No. 1; No. 2, 61½c; new, 53 @ 55c, and no grade at 49 @ 50; closing at 55c for new and 50c for no grade. Sales of new since Change at 55c. Oats—In fair speculative request, and ½ @ 1c higher. Sales of No. 2 at 47 @ 47½ closing at 47½. Rye—In fair demand, and 3 @ 4 higher. Sales of No. 1 at \$1 16 @ 1 19, closing at the outside figures. Barley—Dull and almost nominal at \$1 65 for No. 2. Highwines dull at 93c. Mess Pork—Steady and firm at \$28 50 cash, and \$28 75 buyers' option for January, closing steady at 28 50 cash. Extra prime pork \$23. Lard—½ @ 1c higher. Sales of steamed at 17½ @ 18c, cash, and 18 @ 18½ seller's option for January and February, closing quiet at 17½ @ 18c, cash. Bulk Meats—Inactive, and nominally unchanged. Dressed Hogs—Moderately active and steady; closing firm at \$11 50 @ 11 75, dividing on 200. Live opened dull and weak, subsequently became firmer under a moderately active shipping and packing demand; closing firm, with sales at \$8 50 @ 9 40 for common to fair shipping, and \$9 65 @ 10 50 for fair to extra choice. Beef Cattle in light supply, firm and steady at range of \$3 @ 7 50 for common to choice smooth heavy steers. Receipts for the past 48 hours—14,213 bbls flour; 30,002 bushels wheat; 55,215 do corn; 22,016 do oats; 2,497 do rye; 3,150 do barley; 9,281 head of hogs. Shipments—13,415 bbls flour; 11,177 bushels wheat; 47,122 do corn; 15,850 do oats; 9,185 do rye; 4,254 do barley; 8,000 head of hogs.